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WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE
THE COMMON CAUSE
OF HUMANITY.

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"The time of life is short:
To spend that shortness basely were too long."

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c.c.

Notes and Comments.

Government of the People, by the People, for the People.

Well done *Reynolds!!* *Reynolds's Newspaper* bears the above motto on its title page, and last Sunday it came out strong in the matter. A vigorous leader headed "Asquith Points the Way" contains as crisp and sane a bit of writing about votes for women on a democratic basis, as we need look for. People should buy and read for themselves. We have only room to quote a few "snippets," which are as good as a sea breeze :—

"Militancy or no militancy, propaganda or no propaganda, the franchise must at some time be granted to women in every country that makes the slightest claim to Democratic Government. . . . There is absolutely no answer to the declaration that women's particular qualities are as essential to the State as are men's own, and that if women are equally responsible with men for the perpetuation and the wise devolpment of the race, then women are equally with men entitled to a voice in shaping the legislation that so vitally affects the race. And because there is no answer to the women's contention we range ourselves on the side of those who demand that the sex disability to the franchise must be removed. . . . There is the hard way—we admit that it is a hard way—of agitating constitutionally for it. It is a hard way, but it has the enviable merit of being a certain way. Let every franchise reformer go into the constituencies and hammer away at the electorate."

And the best words of this *Reynolds's* leader writer we give last, They are: "*We want the fight to be won*"!

"Votes for Working Women."

Again *The Nation* (June 27th) speaks out words of statesmanship—this time about the East End women :—

"Starvation wages, crowded homes, insanitary factories, children born without the hope of health, and at their door the tragedy of the unmarried mother—these are some of the realities of life as these women see it. They therefore demand the vote for working women as a weapon of protection.

Its comment on Mr. Asquith's answer to the recent deputation is shrewd :—

"He seemed to attach less importance to the broad question of giving or withholding the vote, than to the terms on which it shall be granted."

Mr. Asquith hinted at a democratic measure for Women's Suffrage. That the demand for this is made actively by the whole Labour Party, and is supported by "most Radicals," *The Nation* places to the credit, in the main, of the constitutional Suffragists :—

"The unflagging work of the constitutional Suffragists in recent years, in alliance with organised labour, has converted its old academic assent into active sympathy. No one will doubt that who saw the great platform of the Albert Hall last February at the National Union's meeting, packed by hundreds of working men from all over England, of whom each represented a trade union as its accredited delegate."

That the Suffragists claim votes for rich women alone is a discredited lie. Working women need this "weapon of protection" only too grievously. Let the Prime Minister lead his party towards that, and most of his present troubles will pass like a bad dream at dawn of day.

Young Liberals at Hastings.

The National League of Young Liberals held their annual conference at Hastings on June 20th, their President the Right Hon. Walter Runciman, M.P., in the Chair. The following resolution, proposed by Mr. J. P. Blake (London), and seconded by Mr. G. H. Parkin (Bedford), was carried by 53 to 15 :—

"That accepting the principle that the Government of the people should be by the people, and the fact that all citizens are directly affected by good or bad government, this Conference, recognising the citizenship of women, and that they constitute, with men, the people, reiterates its conviction that they possess the right to directly express their views by the exercise of the Parliamentary franchise."

This is good, and when the Young Liberals are a little more emancipated from the influence of those agéd, agéd men, the old Liberals, they will go further and demand unequivocally that no Liberal Government shall go on denying this right and live.

"The Westminster" on "How to Solve the Present Difficulty" (in India).

We rubbed our eyes, but there it was, in Tuesday's leading article :—

"The great enemies of progress in India are the anarchists and the bomb-throwers; but the worst injury they could do us would be to check the progressive policy which Lord Morley started during his memorable years of office. We need effective police measures to deal with anarchy, but all the time perseverance with a steady Liberal policy to prevent the constitutional agitators from going over to the physical force party. Our problem is of great difficulty and complexity, but it will never be solved except on these lines."

But, of course, it is that blessed word India which makes the difference.

Forcible Feeding.

According to a report in *The Times* on June 27th, of the trial of Miss N. Hall, the prisoner stated that she had been in custody under remand for five weeks, and had been forcibly fed over 100 times. This statement demands attention. A large body of weighty public opinion has declared itself emphatically against the forcible feeding of prisoners in the circumstances which have surrounded it during the last few years, and a resolution in that sense was passed at the February Council meeting of the N.U.W.S.S. It was hoped by many that the practice had practically ceased. The report referred to above, and others which have recently appeared in the press, seem to indicate that such is not the case. Evidently the public cannot safely relax its vigilance in the matter.

Mrs. Swanwick in "The Christian Commonwealth."

Mrs. Swanwick on "Clapping Militants," and other things, is worth reading in *The Christian Commonwealth* of July 1st.

Portsmouth Drunk (!) and Portsmouth Sober.

We publish in this issue an article by that distinguished surgeon and stalwart friend, Sir Victor Horsley, on the recent conference of the International Abolitionist Federation. Sir Victor's visit to Portsmouth enabled him to see much of the tone and temper of that town. As many of our readers are aware, it has lately been disgraced as the scene of mob violence against Suffragists, but we are glad to learn from Sir Victor that the decent element in the place has made a firm and successful stand in the matter, and the best type of public opinion has been voiced in *The (Portsmouth) Evening News and Southern Daily Mail*. An admirable letter from Rev. C. F. Garbert, from which we quote, is typical of the whole editorial attitude :—

"On Saturday night the disorder nearly culminated in murder, an elderly lady who had been standing quietly in the crowd was set upon by the mob, and was rescued with the utmost difficulty from her cowardly assailants 'with her hair ruthlessly pulled out until the blood poured down her face.'

"The violent acts of a few women elsewhere can under no circumstances be an excuse for lynch law, especially when it is directed against ladies in a town where the advocacy of the vote has been carried on in a perfectly constitutional manner.

"I know that any repetition of this mob violence will meet with the strongest possible condemnation on the part of thousands of Portsmouth men who like myself have taken no part in the Suffrage Movement, and who will demand the prompt punishment of the ringleaders of this stupid and dangerous rioting."

London press please copy!

The Foundations of Freedom Slipping.

We hope our readers will give their careful attention to Miss Chrystal Macmillan's article under the above title. Dr. Chapple's proposed amendment to the Criminal Administration Bill, however well intended, threatens once again the existing rights of women, and Miss Macmillan's wide legal knowledge give her words weight. It is well that members of Parliament should have their attention called to the matter by residents in their constituencies without delay—the time for action is short.

The Shark and its Prey.

Most Suffragist workers are familiar with the words "Women do not want votes" on the breasts of those unhappy sandwich men in the employ of the N.L.O.W.S. Perhaps some of them are not aware that there are two schools of thought at variance the one with the other in the Anti-suffrage camp on this, as on most of the axioms upon which that movement is based. Mr. A. Gibbs writes to *The New Age* to declare his dark suspicions about Mrs. Humphry Ward and incidentally about all women. He believes women do want votes. He writes: "A still worse early step was the closing of the Men's Anti-Suffrage League, just beginning to be active, in 1910. The step was described as an amalgamation of forces, but at the time, I told Mr. George Calderon that the blending would resemble . . . the union of the shark and its prey." Mr. Gibbs, in fact, evidently regards the disappearance of the Men's Anti-suffrage League as an astute move on the part of Mrs. Ward and her vote-mongering sex for whom he provides the elegant appellation of "shark." And, indeed, Mr. Gibbs makes his point, Mrs. Ward does want votes for women, though not so many or of quite the same kind at present as Mrs. Fawcett or Mrs. Creighton. Whether a day will come when Mrs. Ward will be found to have a closer affinity with Mrs. Creighton than with Sir Almroth Wright or Mr. Gibbs, has yet to appear. When

that day comes Mrs. Ward will speak, for she has shown courage, time and again, worthy of her sex and she will not fear Mr. Gibbs.

Controversy Apart.

Our heart has often bled for the sorrows of the Editor of our contemporary *The Anti-Suffrage Review* and for his pathetic dependence for copy upon how naughty the militants or the N.U.W.S.S. or even we ourselves happen to have been at the moment of his going to press, for regularly as the moon in the heavens the paper must appear each month. But all this is at an end, for a bold constructive policy has been adopted. There is now a new "feature" in the form of certain columns bearing the above alluring title, and nicely calculated to prevent the "lady readers" from straying from their allegiance. No paper's circulation can languish long which gives such dainty morsels of news as the following: "Melena stockings, of fine smooth cashmere, with 'Fortified Feet,' are most comfortable and excellent for wear." "The fact that the rainfall during March beats all records for half-a-century justifies the hope that better weather, &c. An ostrich boa or ruffle requires therefore to be in readiness for fine days." "We notice a most original contrivance (of the utmost use) in the 'Transformation Motor Rug.' The covering can be changed into a 'Burnous' in a few seconds." Now all this is quite nice, and fit for any drawing-room table, but editors have to be very, very careful. A paragraph has crept in called "Married Women Workers," which tells a sad story: "Every little flat (happily it is all far away in New York) is served from a common kitchen by means of an electric waiter. Last and not least, the laundry and mending staff keep all in order, making the mother's life a dream of peace." This kind of thing will split the N.L.O.W.S. to its foundations, it is no less than that unseemly "women's emancipation" stalking unashamed in broad daylight; in fact, it is simply Mrs. Perkins Gilman or Councillor Margaret Ashton at their worst. Suffragists are pertinaceous and cunning—supposing one had assumed a disguise and was sitting in the outer editorial office with a complete Suffragist outfit in her little reticule!

On Women at Boxing Matches.

A correspondent writes to ask if we disagree with *The Times* advocacy of women attending boxing matches, and tells us that many consider the sport fine and manly. A gentleman of the name of Mr. Dick Burge expressed the view in *The Times* of June 25th that it was all a matter of temperament, and he was not far from the truth. We would put it rather that in this as in other matters women should judge for themselves. Let the men refrain from dictating any course of action to the women, but let such of them as are engaged in the business of promoting boxing matches see to it that such matches are exhibitions of fine and manly sport, and are so conducted that neither men nor women do themselves dishonour if they attend.

Manchester.

Congratulations to Manchester citizens for having Mrs. Fawcett among them last Saturday, and for showing their sympathy with her cause with such spirit.

In Parliament.

[We make no attempt to give a full account of the week's proceedings in Parliament. Our aim is merely to show what Parliament is doing with regard to questions which we have special reason to think would be more satisfactorily dealt with if women had the vote.]

Tuesday, June 23rd.

"Under No Act of Parliament."

In reply to a question from Mr. Wedgwood (Newcastle-under-Lyme, L.) with reference to the action of the Government or of the police in warning owners of certain public halls of the consequences which might result to themselves from affording facilities for meetings of members of the Women's Social and Political Union,

Mr. McKenna (Home Secretary) replied that "crimes and outrages are believed" to have followed the incitements to violence made in speeches by members of the W.S.P.U. in public halls, and it "was deemed advisable by the police" to warn owners or lessors of the possible consequences to themselves.

Mr. Wedgwood: "Under what Act of Parliament do they render themselves liable for the speeches made?"

Mr. McKenna: "Under no Act of Parliament, but under the ordinary exercise of common sense."

Common sense has been very conspicuous by its absence in Mr. McKenna's dealings with militancy, and some may prefer the law as laid down by Act of Parliament to Mr. McKenna's views of what constitutes "common sense."

No Effective Steps.

Mr. King (N. Somerset, L.) called the attention of the Under-Secretary for War (Mr. Tennant) to a case of seduction of a girl of sixteen by a soldier of the Regular Forces now stationed in South Africa. The paternity of the child had been admitted. Money having been both paid and promised in respect of the child, Mr. King wished to know whether payments have now ceased, and whether the Secretary of State for War was in a position to take "effective steps" in the matter.

Mr. Tennant replied that if by "effective steps" the Hon. Member meant that the man should be put under compulsory stoppage of pay, he regretted that he could "only say that that is not within the power of the Army Council."

Thursday, June 25th.

Miss Sylvia Pankhurst and East End Women.

Mr. Wedgwood (Newcastle-under-Lyme, L.) asked whether the Prime Minister had consulted yet with the Home Secretary as to the unconditional release of Miss Sylvia Pankhurst, and, if so, what conclusion had been come to.

Mr. Lloyd George replied that the Prime Minister had consulted with his colleague, and that Mr. McKenna "has always been willing, and is still willing," to recommend the remission of Miss S. Pankhurst's sentence "if she will give an undertaking to abstain in future from criminal actions and incitements to crime and disorder."

Mr. Wedgwood asked if Mr. Lloyd George was aware that the East End women "are not advocating violence and are separated entirely from the W.S.P.U.," and seeing that Miss Pankhurst has been arrested eight times could he not see his way to grant the full remission of her sentence?

No answer was given.

Friday, June 26th.

Parliamentary Elections (Polling Day) Bill.

Mr. Worthington Evans (Colchester, U.) moved that the Bill be referred back. He objected to the proposal to hold all elections on the same day on the ground that there would not be sufficient police available to give equal protection to all candidates who came in for "the affectionate regards of the electors," and that it would be impossible to have "a peaceful and quiet election."

Sir Randolf Baker (N. Dorset, U.) tried to import a little humour into the debate by pointing out the opportunity which would be provided for burglars and militants.

Sir J. D. Rees (E. Nottingham, U.) drew a lurid picture of the danger candidates, successful and unsuccessful, apparently run after the polling.

Monday, June 29th.

Supply.—Foreign Office Vote.

Mr. Swift MacNeill (S. Donegal, N.) said that in the debates on foreign policy members say what to the best of their information are the true facts of the case, but "none of the members are furnished with official information as they would be furnished with on any matter of domestic policy," and that the House of Commons allowed itself "to be treated as a child in matters which are the springs of policy themselves—in matters which create wars." In Mr. Swift MacNeill's opinion the Houses of Parliament, "as far as foreign policy is concerned, are absolutely impotent." He referred to Mr. Disraeli's declaration that the power of making peace and war was a prerogative absolutely outside the House of Commons—and that Lord Palmerston had also declared that in peace and war people who said they had a right to interfere did not know the British Constitution.

Tuesday, June 30th.

The Children Bill.

In reply to a question by Mr. Hoare (Chelsea, U.), The Chancellor of the Exchequer said that with the existing heavy demands on Government time and the serious opposition that had manifested itself against the Children (Employment and School Attendance) Bill, the Prime Minister was afraid it was impossible to grant facilities for the Bill this Session. In reply to further questions, he promised to consult the Prime Minister as to the possibility of proceeding with the less contentious parts of the Bill.

The Foundations of Freedom Slipping in the Sand.

The immemorial rights of woman may at any moment be taken from her by an irresponsible Parliament, and she has no redress. On June 22nd, Dr. Chapple asked the Prime Minister whether he would set up a Select Committee to inquire into the alleged grievances of unrepresented women. Mr. Asquith replied that the Government were quite willing to consider any grievances which might be shown to exist, but he did not think the Committee necessary.

On that same day, on an order paper, appeared a proposed amendment to the Criminal Justice Administration Bill, in the name of Dr. Chapple and three other members, which would have the effect of very seriously infringing the present rights of women.

The proposal is to give judges and magistrates power to clear the Court in all cases of criminal proceedings with respect to the unlawful carnal knowledge of a woman or girl, or any attempt to have such knowledge, or to the prostitution of any woman or girl, or an indecent assault upon any woman or girl; or any proceedings under the Bastardy Acts. The Court is given the right to clear out all or any persons except *bonâ-fide* representatives of the press. A further Sub-section of the amendment proposes to make it compulsory to try certain other cases, including rape, in camera, that is, without even a representative of the press present, except that where such proceedings were in respect of a woman or girl the Court would have it at its discretion to admit one female person who was a relative or friend of the woman or girl, if the woman or girl desired to have her admitted.

How would these provisions work out in practice? They would have the effect of making it possible for judges and magistrates to try most cases of sex crimes where a woman was concerned in a court in which no other woman could be present. At present the laws are made and administered by men only; there are no women lawyers for other women to consult professionally. The introduction of this new limitation in the immemorial rights of women would have the effect that not only the law makers, the judges, and the juries would be all men, but it would mean that only men would be able to criticise; for the necessary knowledge on which criticism might be based would only reach women after it had filtered through the minds of men, for law reporters also are mostly men.

Women have begun to realise how very serious are their responsibilities in criticising the proceedings in the courts. The occasional suppressing of the names of men cited, when all particulars with respect to the women concerned are made public, brings this home. Then, too, certain magistrates, at least till recently, have cleared not only children but women out of court, when they had no legal right to do so. Renton and Robertson's "Encyclopædia of Law" states the legal position as follows:

> "It is a common practice to order women and children out of court when certain classes of criminal charges are being heard: *but the order as to adult women has neither common law nor statutory authority,* and is not enforceable by any legal process."

This statement of the law as it exists at present shows how very great a limitation Dr. Chapple's amendment proposes to place on the public—and in these cases women are a very important section of the public. The decision in the case of Scott and Morgan *v.* Scott, in the House of Lords on May 5th, 1913, made clear that the magistrates have no power to turn out the public from the courts. That was a most important decision for women. In it the House of Lords laid down unanimously that there was no general power in "the present English courts of law . . . *to hold any courts of law with closed doors.*" The most complete statement of the law on the point was given by Lord Shaw. He said that at Common Law all cases must be heard in open court, except those dealing with lunatics, wards in Court, or cases in which a public hearing would defeat the object of the action as, for example, a case dealing with a secret process of manufacture. In some few cases a power to exclude the public has been given by Statute. An English Statute provides that cases of incest are to be heard in camera. In certain special cases, notably where a child or young person is giving evidence in cases dealing with offences against decency or morality, the Court has the right to exclude any or all persons except the press. In practice this has often meant excluding women but not excluding men.

This amendment of Dr. Chapple's would place a very great restriction on the present rights of women to attend court proceedings in matters vitally affecting them, a right which they have enjoyed from time immemorial. Lord Shaw, in the cases referred to above, made it clear that this right of the public to admittance to the courts was part of the Common Law. By this judgment were overturned several previous decisions in the lower courts. He put it in this way—

> "I make no apology for treating the situation which has been reached as most serious for the citizens of this country . . . what has happened is a usurpation—a usurpation which could not have been allowed even as a prerogative of the Crown, and most certainly must be denied to the judges of the land. To remit the maintenance of a constitutional right to the region of judicial discretion is to shift the foundation of freedom from the rock to the sand. . . . I should most deeply regret if the law were other than I have stated it to be."

If the law were otherwise than he had stated it to be,

> "then an easy way would be open to the judges to remove their proceedings from the light and to silence for ever the voice of the critic and hide the knowledge of truth."

Women should be grateful to Lord Shaw for having put this point so clearly and strongly. He was, no doubt, speaking of the hearing of a case in camera, that is, without the presence of even the representatives of the press. But it is also of vital importance to women not to have cases dealing with the relative position of the sexes hedged round so that it would be next to impossible for women to be present. During the last fifty years the legal position of women has improved in many ways. The setting down of this amendment shows us that no advance is secure when even immemorial rights are attacked by the very man who speaks of "the alleged wrongs" of women. What reason is there to suggest such an alteration in the law? Is it that women have become more alive to the need of their criticism in doing away with many of the abuses in the administration of the law on all these sex charges? Let women in every part of the country protest against this attack on another of their liberties.

CHRYSTAL MACMILLAN, B.Sc., M.A.

NEWS FROM ABROAD.

U.S.A.

The Woman's Journal (Boston) announces that the Supreme Court of U.S.A. confirms the legality of the Illinois Act enfranchising women passed a year ago.

DENMARK.

As we go to press the following cable has been received from Copenhagen:—

"Victory for our cause in election of Upper House."

The few words below, abridged from *The Westminster* of June 30th, throw an interesting light on the situation:—

> "Turning to the present and more immediate political situation, in a word it can be explained by saying that the Reform Bill, already passed by the Lower Chamber, has been hung up by the Upper House. Here the supporters and opponents are exactly equal, each party having thirty-three deputies. But as neither House can pass any Bill except in a sitting in which more than half the total number of members of the particular Chamber actually take part in the debate and vote, and as the President, a Conservative, has no vote, it was possible for the Conservatives by withdrawing *en bloc* to paralyse business. As a result of this manœuvre, which took place this month, various conferences upon the validity of the Life Charters of the twelve King's chosen deputies took place between his Majesty and the present Radical Prime Minister. Finally at a State Council on June 13th, his Majesty consented to dissolve the fifty-four elected members of the Upper House, disagreeing at the same time in writing with the formal statement of the Government that he had the right, under Article 22 of the Constitution, also to dismiss men whose appointment, according to another clause, is 'valid for life.' The position, therefore, now is that the Radical Government, having declared that it considers the position taken up by the King to be unjustifiable, if not illegal, has decided to remain in office and seek success at an election for the whole fifty-four members of the Upper House at the *same time*—an event which has never before taken place in modern Danish political history—and thus the future constitutional system of the country practically hangs upon whether the present Government increases the number of its supporters in the Upper House by two deputies! If this be the case it will enable the Ministry to appoint a President, who is always nominated from the majority, and at the same time to have the necessary voting quorum of thirty-four deputies with which to pass the Bill. Both Chambers will then be dissolved, and if the present Coalition Party or one holding like views is again returned to power and the Bill is then passed without alteration by both Houses, after receiving the Royal Assent it will become law."

Mr. McKenna on June 30th received a deputation from the Joint Advisory Committee (members of Parliament and women social workers) consisting of Mrs. Humphry Ward, Miss Ethel Pickersgill-Cunliffe, Lady St. Cyres, Mrs. J. A. Spender, Mr. Cecil Beck, M.P., and Mr. W. H. Dickinson, M.P., to urge amendments to the Criminal Justice Administration Bill, mainly on the lines advocated by Mrs. Ward in a recent letter to *The Times* referred to in Notes and Comments of June 12th.

Subjects of vital interest to women workers will be considered at the annual conference of the Fabian Society in London on Saturday.

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Correspondence.

ARE WE TOO LADY-LIKE TO SELL "THE COMMON CAUSE"?

Madam,—You publish a letter this week headed "Are we too Lady-like to Sell The Common Cause"? The following extract from the letter of a Winchester boy shows that sellers may meet with a welcome in unexpected places.

"June 28th, 1914.

"Dear Mother,—I hope you are getting on well with your Suffrage work. On Eton match day I saw a girl with your colours selling The Common Cause here. I was *overjoyed*, and said to her, 'I am delighted to see you here.' It was the first appearance of Suffrage in Winchester that I have come across."

Who can say where the educational value of the work of C.C. sellers ends?

Mater.

A WOMAN SAILOR.

Madam,—A few weeks ago an incorrect account of a Danish lady's profession was published in your paper. The facts I believe to be as follows, my authority being a vice-admiral in the Danish Navy. Fru Banditz (not Banding) passed in 1910 a little examination which all yachting people take, and which enables them to find their way on a map and recognise signals, &c. She owns a boarding house at Rórvig, a tiny place at the entrance to a Fjord in the N.W. of Seeland, and on this Fjord she has established communication between the different small towns by means of a little steamboat of 20 tons. She employs a skipper to navigate the boat. Her husband is *not* a doctor. . . .

I am sorry to say that the very incorrect statement in The Common Cause has confirmed my Danish friends in their low opinion of women's standard of truthfulness—an opinion which I have endeavoured to change by means of this very journal.

M. Crosfield.

[*We beg to express regret if, as we fear may be the case, inaccuracies have occurred in our news regarding Fru Banditz. Some of it came from a Copenhagen correspondent and some from a German newspaper. The matter is not sufficiently important for an exhaustive enquiry into each point raised in the conflicting accounts to be organised by us in the country concerned. We are amused that the alleged inaccuracies should have confirmed anybody in their low opinion of women's standard of truthfulness—for we suspect that the editor of the peccant German newspaper may have been a man—our fault therefore, if any, a too implicit reliance upon man's infallibility.*—Ed., C.C.]

MILITANCY AND "THE COMMON CAUSE."

Madam,—One hopes for the credit of the W.S.S. that the sentiments of the Misses Hill, expressed in a recent issue, are shared by few of our members. It is surely time for women to cease the silly and futile tactics of mutual condemnation, and to join forces against the common enemy—the Anti-suffragist. That the N.U.W.S.S. does not approve of militant methods is made abundantly clear in every issue. That we as individuals dissent from the policy of the W.S.P.U. is shown by our refusal of membership, and by our support of a non-militant Society. But why should we go out of our way, or ask you Madam, to condemn the militants? Surely, there are enough men engaged in the "manly" occupation of hounding down, torturing, and persecuting these women, who, at frightful cost to themselves, are after all fighting our battle. "Violence begets violence," says your correspondent. We must therefore, in merest justice, remember that it was the Government which initiated and carried on violent measures of repression long before any woman had resorted to illegal action. Let us, then, lay the blame on the right shoulders. The *men* of this country, and they only, having Parliamentary power, can end the present appalling state of affairs. There is no necessity for blame in any other quarter.

The only dignified and effective policy for non-militant women is to bend every effort on constitutional methods of agitation, proving to the Government that Women's Suffrage must be conceded. In this way we can clear our consciences of responsibility for the present muddle, which the trickery, injustice, and cruelty of the Government have brought about. However we may differ from the policy of the militants, their heroic and incredible courage should at least command our respect.

A. S. Byett.

Madam,—I write to endorse heartily the letter from Misses E. and G. Hill which appeared in a recent issue. . . . Militancy is just now our worst enemy, human nature being what it is. Our constitutional efforts are going to help us very little, unless we not only dissociate ourselves from, but explicitly condemn, these methods of violence. The Common Cause has been in the habit of using mitigating phrases on this subject. I suggest that the time for all these is altogether past. "Criminal acts of fellow-Suffragists (I quote your recent Editorial) are none the less criminal acts, and are all the *more* dangerous to our cause, because Suffragists are committing them. Whatever our relations with individual persons may be, this sort of phrase suggests a sympathy with their actions which I believe many of your readers would wish altogether to repudiate. It would be a great asset to all constitutional work for the Suffrage if we had in The Common Cause a paper which whole-heartedly stood for that condemnation of law-breaking which our position now absolutely demands.

Dorothy Tarrant.

[*The above letters have been held over, owing to pressure on space. We do not attack militants, and we do not condone militancy. We recognise that most militants are courageous and sincere, but we unreservedly condemn their advocacy of physical violence, of arson, of methods of anarchy. We confess to some amusement and relief at Miss Tarrant's revelation that it is the use of such phrases as "crimes of fellow-Suffragists" which have brought upon us accusations of complicity with crime for which we have been wholly unable to account. Should there have been some powerful adjective before the word "crime"? However, all is now explained, and this correspondence is closed.*—Ed., C.C.]

WIND AND TIDE.

BY E. RENTOUL ESLER.

Author of "The Wardlaws," "The Trackless Way," "The Way they Loved at Grimpat," "A Maid of the Manse," &c.

SYNOPSIS.

Kate Burnsley is the daughter of a rough Irish farmer, but her mother had been brought up in a refined and cultured home, and had only married Burnsley because her father, the Rev. John Moffatt, was reduced to poverty. On her mother's death, Kate takes her place as mistress of the farm, and performs her duties well, but she is in thoroughly uncongenial surroundings. Everything in the house that stirs her imagination, that seems beautiful, has come to Kate from her mother's people. Kate worships her brother Neil, who is training as a solicitor, and resents the admiration of Dick Nelson, a handsome but rough young man, who is obliged to work on her father's farm, because his people had wasted away all their possessions while he was still a child. Biddy Doyle, who comes in to "lend a hand" in the kitchen, has a great admiration for Dick, and, deeply as she is devoted to Kate, rather resents her attitude towards the young man.

Neil comes home for a short holiday, and brother and sister plan out a delightful future together. Her brother's companionship makes Richard Nelson's wooing all the more repugnant to Kate. One day, however, on her way home from market, she is rescued by Nelson from a mad dog, and in the first grateful consciousness of deliverance allows him to kiss her, but as soon as she recovers herself she repulses him. He leaves her in anger but comes next day, to tell her that he has had an offer of a post with a good salary, and asks her to promise to marry him. Again Kate repulses him, and when later on he writes to say that he has come into some property, and that he is still fond of her, she answers his letter rudely. A second letter arrives from Nelson, telling Kate that he has a mortgage on her father's farm, and asking if this makes any difference to her views. She replies that it does not.

Kate's father, however, has different views. Unable to pay off the mortgage, it does not occur to him that his daughter will "have other views than to save her father and brother," especially as Neil has come home seriously ill. In an interview with Nelson he promises that Kate shall marry him, and rides off in high good humour, leaving the young man ill at ease. "He wanted her so much that he would take her against her will, but only in the hope that one day she would be satisfied."

Persuaded by her father and brother, Kate at last consents to marry Nelson, who, in spite of her reluctance, hopes to win her love in the end.

CHAPTER IX.

THE wedding feast was spread in the farm kitchen, as this was the most spacious apartment, and as Kate sat in front of the bride's-cake, listening to the laboured jesting of one and another, she was recalling the days when Nelson took his servant's meal at this very board, and she sat adjacent, disdaining him. That she should be his wife seemed quite as monstrous now as it would have done then, only that it was an accomplished fact.

Richard Nelson was cutting the bride's-cake into which she had thrust the knife, and she was replying pleasantly to the pleasant remarks made to her. She was sure that it must all be a dream, from which she would awake by and by, because it is only in dreams that people remain unmoved when the most terrible things happen.

Then the minister made a cordial little speech, proposing the health of the bride and bridegroom, saying many complimentary things about both, and finding some parallel between them and that Oriental pair: Boaz and Ruth.

When he sat down there was a rather awkward pause, and then Kate, still feeling that she was dreaming, whispered to Nelson that he must say something.

"What shall I say?" he asked, and she answered that he must rise and express a word or two of thanks.

Nelson rose, and stood for an instant, leaning both hands rather awkwardly on the table, and then he did the best thing possible: thanked Mr. Redbrook for his kind words and kind wishes, and said both he and his wife would endeavour to deserve them in the future, even if they had not deserved them in the past. Such simple sincerity met with more acclaim than is always accorded to greater eloquence.

The first constraint was passing away, talk was becoming general, when the doctor indicated that, as the bridegroom had omitted to propose the health of the bridesmaid, he would repair the omission, leaving it to that promising ornament of the legal profession, Mr. Neil Burnsley, to respond.

Neil, who had been making himself very agreeable to his neighbour, Miss Jessie Dunstable, rose, with some idea of a rhetorical effort. First he made a joke about the happy event of that day being the prelude to similar happy events in the district, and stated that this abounded in potential lovely brides. Suddenly he stopped, pressed his handkerchief to his smiling lips, and sat down. After an instant's consternation, amid which he managed to beg them to excuse his inability to say more, he rose and left the room, the bride following him. He staggered towards the open door, his ensanguined handkerchief pressed to his mouth, and a choking, husky cough shaking him.

"Doctor, doctor," Kate cried, wildly. Then there was confusion, the sick man half carried to his room by the bridegroom, and the doctor flying away on a borrowed horse for astringents, while the patient slowly bled to death.

"Kate, little Kate. I am so sorry for you," he whispered, the words coming in husky gasps, as she knelt beside him, her white frock stained crimson in patches.

A dose of gallic acid helped a little, but the hemorrhage came on again, while Jessie Dunstable, half blind with weeping, cleared away the mocking remnants of the feast.

At dawn of the next day Neil died, and Kate's sacrifice had been in vain.

The bride remained at Laganside till after the funeral; Nelson going home, for business must be attended to, but returning daily, and being as kind and helpful as any man could.

The funeral took place three days later, and as Kate watched the funeral cortège wend its way across the valley, with her father and Nelson as chief mourners, she felt the first clutch of that empty despair that was to be her only conscious feeling for many a day.

When the mourners came back she was sitting in the parlour, plucking at the fringes on the sofa pillow mechanically, like one in a dream.

Nelson sat down beside her and put his arm about her, but she drew away from him, saying: "No, no," wildly.

"Can you not give me a little bit of the love that, till now, was all for him?" he asked, not ungently, whereat she burst into a shrill laugh more painful than a cry. Since God had to take Neil, why could He not have taken him a day earlier?

Nelson made no further attempt at consolation, merely hung about stupidly, following her with his eyes till supper was over. Then he asked "What about going home?"

"It is almost your time," she answered apathetically.

"You will come with me?"

"No."

"When, then?"

"Must I—ever?"

"You are my wife."

She looked at him with haggard eyes, but made no reply.

"Will you come to-morrow?"

"I don't know. Oh, let me say to-morrow, and then to-morrow, and always to-morrow."

"Must I be made wretched because he has died? I would have kept him in life a thousand years if I could have done it, for your happiness."

"Yes, I know."

"But since he is dead——"

"Don't reason with me. I cannot bear reason, or talk, or anything. O, Neil, Neil, Neil!"

When Nelson was leaving, again he tried to kiss her, and again she lowered her face, so that his lips met only her hair.

At that he was wroth, and said sharply that it was all very well to be sorry, but that it was not well always to play the fool. As he drove home he told himself that one might have expected grief to make her tender, but that it had not done so.

When he came next day, he brought the mortgage with him, and put it into her hand. "I promised this," he said.

"We must have a talk," she answered.

He followed her sombrely into the little parlour, and she closed the door.

When he flung himself on the sofa, she sat down near him, still holding the parchment.

"Dick," she began, and her words were laboured and tremulous, and her face very pale. "I want to know if it is too late to—to make some arrangement."

"What kind of an arrangement do you want?"

"You know I married you for Neil's sake, to save Neil, I told you that. But Neil is dead, you were not able to do anything for him, had not time even to try, and so—and so—does it not seem as if the bargain ought to end?"

"So that is your game, is it?"

"Here is the mortgage, I do not want it, foreclose now if you like. I will never blame you, or forget how kind you have been. The sale of the stock and other things will leave something for father and me, and we will go to Canada. That is what I have thought of, and, after a time, in two or three years I think, the marriage could be dissolved, if we both applied. Then we should both be set free, and there would be no harm done."

"And that is what you wanted to say to me?"

"Yes." There was a look in her eyes as in those of a young stunned animal bound in the slaughter-house.

"I won't consent," he said.

"But I don't love you, though I almost think I could, if you would agree to this."

"And much good that would do me. No, my lady, you are my wife, and my wife you shall be. I don't think I have been impatient, but a man grows angry when the tomfoolery has no end. You had better not try me overmuch. You shall come home with me to-day."

"Supposing I refuse?"

"Do you think your father will stand by you, or anyone else, for the matter of that? Try not to make a scandal, it will do you no good. There's your price in your hand, and I hold you to the bargain."

"I don't love you," she said dully, "and I don't want to live with you."

"Damn your love," he answered brutally; "I am sick of the name of it. There are other things in the world as well as love; there is good sense, and fair play. People will stand a certain amount, but they will not consent to be tricked and tormented. I've had enough of your high mightiness, and treating me like the dirt under your feet. I am less of a fool than you seem to think. If there is to be a struggle between us, you will find who is master. I mean it kindly when I advise you not to try any game that you shan't win."

She sat dumbly listening to him, her elbow on the chair back, her chin on her hand. One of his statements she knew to be absolutely

true; from her father she would receive no help whatever. The man would stand by the man, and both would think it essential to constrain the woman.

"If you make me go with you, I don't know what will happen," she said in a low voice.

"I know well enough." He laughed not unpleasantly. "In six months you will have seen how ridiculous all this is. Now the only thing we need discuss is whether you will go straight home with me, or whether you would like the wedding journey we spoke of, to Wicklow, and Dublin, and Killarney. It would be something to look back on, that we had seen all these places, and it would make a diversion at the first."

"And Neil in his grave?" she said with a little moan. "Oh, no; if this thing must be, if you have bought me as you would a cow, I will go straight home with you at once."

"This evening?"

"No, now."

"That is right; that is like good sense. You'll want to see the house by daylight, won't you? I have made it as nice as I knew how, but if you don't like it—and I don't know that it pleases me altogether—you can alter it to your mind."

"It will be all right. It will do very well." She was silent a moment, then her eyes fell on the paper in her hand.

"Shall I burn this?" she asked.

"Just as you like. It means property, eleven hundred pounds, and I should advise you to keep it. The place is likely to come to you in the end in any case; but it is yours for a certainty now."

She balanced the parchment indifferently on one finger, then she said: "I suppose I had better keep it."

"It is what I should advise."

She rose and stood an instant facing him. "O, Dick, I wish, I wish——" she said, and stopped.

"Let us wish to be happy together, because that is one thing we can bring to pass, if we try," he answered. "I have never cared for any woman in the world but you."

But she was not listening to him. She was looking away towards the hill-top, beyond which lay a little broken earth that marked where all her interests and hopes were buried.

(To be continued.)

NOTICE.

The first of a monthly series of services of prayer and intercession in connection with the Suffrage question will be held in St. George's Church, Bloomsbury, on Wednesday, July 22nd, at 8.0 p.m. The Bishop of London has given his cordial approval, and writes: "I fully realise the importance of the question. The more quietly these services are carried out, the more they will impress people with the sincerity of the Cause for which they are held." An address will be given by Canon Todd.

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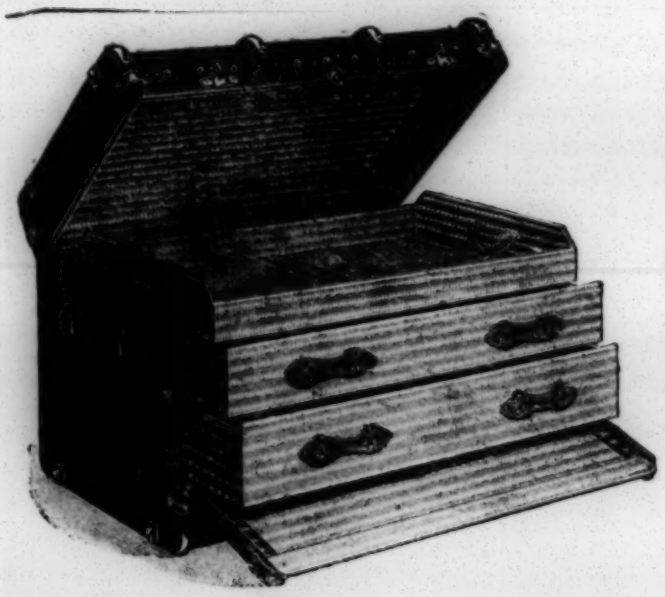

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Catching a Pal:

AN EPISODE IN THE LIGHTNING CAMPAIGN.

Scene: *A Suburban Drawing-room.*

Mr. Dobson	Stockbroker.
Mrs. Dobson	His wife.
Eva Dobson	His daughter.
Bob Towers	His neighbour's son.

Mr. D. (*putting down newspaper*) Well, I hope after this last outrage by the Suffragettes I shall hear no more of your Suffrage opinions, and that you will cease to subscribe to any Suffrage Society.

Mrs. D. On the contrary, my dear John, these lamentable excesses of the militants make it all the more incumbent upon us who disapprove of militant methods to strengthen the National Union by every means in our power, and work all the harder for our Cause.

Mr. D. Rubbish! You are just throwing away your time and money. The Movement is now as dead as a door-nail—Militancy has killed it (if it ever had any life, which I doubt), and a good job too.

Mrs. D. My dear, good man, you really are a most amusing ostrich. Because you do not want a thing, you just hide your head in the sand and say that it does not exist. Far from being dead, or even moribund, the N.U. is particularly active just now, and has just started a new campaign.

Mr. D. Good heavens! I trust you are not intending to take part in any more processions or pilgrimages or other circus performances. I tell you candidly, I have had enough of such doings, and you must understand, once and for all, that I will not have you making a fool of yourself and bring *my* name into ridicule.

Mrs. D. My dear boy, you may make your mind quite easy on that score; the new campaign is just a "Catch your Pal" scheme—quite "lady-like," I assure you. It is simply that every member of the N.U. in Britain is to get at least one new member during this month, and so double the membership of the N.U.

Mr. D. Thank heaven it's nothing worse! But are you really infatuated enough to believe that you will find any decent people willing to be mixed up in the thing after these goings on? (*points to newspaper reports*) You may go on saying you are non-militant till Doomsday, but no one will believe you. You will all be tarred with the same brush, and I advise you to keep clear of the whole thing. I wish you could have heard Brown, Jones, and Robinson in the train this morning, as we were going up to the City. *They* did not mince matters, I can tell you; and they know what they are talking about.

Mrs. D. Really, John, this is too funny! To hear you quoting Brown, Jones, and Robinson with such approval, when it was only yesterday that you called them "three old stick-in-the muds, who could not see beyond their noses," because they disapproved of your pet scheme of "town-planning." However, neither they nor any other "stick-in-the-muds" can stop the Suffrage Movement (though, I grant, they may delay it a little), because the young people are with us, and they will carry it on, even if it does not triumph in our lifetime. Just look at Eva and her companions, how undaunted they are. The year she spent at the Settlement gave her such insight into the lives of women who have to earn their own livelihood against such odds, that the Enfranchisement of Women became the first article of her social creed.

Mr. D. Well, I own things often are a bit hard for such women, but then they are the exception, and I can't see that it is any reason for women like you, who have good husbands who give you everything you want, becoming Suffragists. If you would give up bothering about votes, and lay yourselves out to be pleasing to men, they would be much more ready to get you the particular bits of social reform that perhaps are needed in the case of some women. Men hate women who argue with them; they like women who make themselves pleasant and appeal to their chivalry. You don't realise where your real power lies.

Enter Eva (*through French window, where she had been standing during her father's speech*). Bravo, Daddy! I never heard you so eloquent before. If all women were as fascinating as mother, and all men as reasonable as you, the Millennium would be at hand. I came to tell mother that I have just met Bob. He came down from Cambridge last night, and I have asked him in to tea and tennis; he has just gone home to fetch his racquet. We can ring up the Joneses if he finds it too slow to play singles with me. He did not seem to think it would be though, when I asked him. Cambridge has not spoilt him yet. Happy thought! I wonder whether I can get him as my new member! I thought him too much of a boy to ask before, but now he calls himself a Cambridge *man*, I think I'll try. (*Enter* Bob.) Oh, there you are! That's right; we shall just have time for a set before tea. But there is something I want you to do for me first. You will do it, won't you?

Bob. Anything to oblige. What is it?

Eva. (*producing N.U. membership form and her best smile*) Just sign this paper and give me a shilling or as much more as you like.

Bob. But——

Eva. "But me no buts." You said you would do "anything to oblige," and I really am paying you a great compliment in asking you to do it. You see, I have to get a new member for our Suff. Society, and I thought at once of *you*, as I knew you to be a just and sensible man—not a bit like those rowdy Oxford undergraduates who came down with Charlie Brown at Easter. I knew I could rely on you.

Bob. But——

Eva. Now, you are not going to make excuses the first time I ask you to do me a service. I know you are far too clever to be an

"Anti." If you are, I certainly shall not invite you in to tennis again. So beware!

BOB. But, I say——

EVA. No, you needn't *say* anything, but just sign. It will be all right. But do be quick, or there will be no time for a set before tea.

BOB. All right. I'll do it to please you.

EVA. Thank you. I should have been dreadfully disappointed in you if you had really refused. Now give it to me, and I will put it into an envelope and send it at once to our Secretary, while you go and tighten the net, so as to waste no more time.

(*Exit* BOB.)

(MRS. DOBSON *and* EVA *laugh heartily as soon as he is out of earshot.*)

MR. D. (*disgustedly*) Well, I never did think much of your Society; but if that is the way you get new members, I think still less of it. And as for Bob—he is a fool—no better than wax in your hands.

EVA. (*still laughing*) Oh, you dear, delightful Daddy! Don't you see that you ought to be quite charmed with me for just putting your own doctrines into practice! You know you said just now that women could always get what they want from men if they only go about it the right way and use smiles instead of arguments. So I just tried the wheedling dodge on Bob! Ta-ta, I must not keep him waiting. (*Exit* EVA.)

MR. DOBSON. She had me there fairly! The old folk are no match for the young ones nowadays. (*Takes up his paper again.*)

CURTAIN.

E. D. HIGGINSON.

[*Critics, please note! This is a dramatic sketch, and "Eva" is a fictitious character. We do not give editorial endorsement to her womanly methods!*—ED., C.C.]

July Magazines.

The Englishwoman for this month makes especially good reading. Where all the articles are so good, it is difficult to do justice in the small space available in our columns, but we should advise all our readers to study the excellent contribution by Miss Palliser on the militant agitation. Miss Palliser draws a parallel between the disturbances of to-day and those which took place at the time of the first Reform Bill in 1832, when, as she points out, ministers were forced to vindicate the authority of the law and also to satisfy the demand for justice on the part of the disfranchised. Then, as now, there was a law-breaking element at work, but the franchise was granted in response to the common desire for justice expressed by all that were demanding the reform. Lynch law and vindictive repression are methods unworthy of a great nation, and Miss Palliser maintains that the true problem awaiting solution is not the question of how militant disorders are to be suppressed, but rather how the reform of the franchise laws in favour of women is best to be effected.

In the article on "Municipal Funerals," Miss Basnett gives a very interesting account of the way in which many municipalities abroad, in Switzerland and Germany especially, have undertaken the management of funerals.

We have the arguments for and against the State registration of nurses clearly set forth over the signature of "F." Then there is an excellent article on Josephine Butler by Miss Ashworth; Miss M. Lowndes gives us a charming picture of Lombardy in early summer; and we have a study in Mediæval Literature by Miss M. M. Gray. The translation of a Russian story by Andreef, with an excellent review of the Russian ballet, and the usual interesting notices of new books complete a good shilling's worth of literature.

LONDON SCHOOL OF MEDICINE FOR WOMEN.

The annual presentation of prizes and certificates in connection with the London (Royal Free Hospital) School of Medicine for Women took place on June 20th, Mrs. Garrett Anderson, M.D., President, in the Chair. Mr. F. D. Acland, M.P., Chairman of the Council, referred to the severe loss that the school had sustained in February last by the death of Miss Cock, M.D., who was Dean of the School for ten years, and a devoted worker for over twenty-three years. The work she did for the school, he said, cannot possibly be over-estimated. She possessed the greatest wisdom, and lent distinction to everything to which she gave her help. It was a high privilege to be associated with her. The best tribute we can pay to Miss Cock is to try to introduce into our lives some of her spirit, and to imitate her devotion to duty.

Sir Wilmot Herringham, M.D., F.R.C.P., Vice-Chancellor of the University of London, distributed the prizes and certificates, and afterwards addressed the students on the subject of the changes that had taken place, and that he foresaw would take place, in the practice of medicine. One of the most remarkable things, he said, was the enormous access of strength they had gained in the State. The great want of England, and especially of London, was organisation.

The following were the principal awards:—Dean's Medal for Skill in Clinical Medicine, Miss I. E. Hart; Gant Medal for Surgery, Miss E. M. Mackenzie; Richardson-Kuhlmann Prize in Obstetrical Medicine, Miss I. E. Hart; Richardson-Kuhlmann Prize in Senior Subjects, Miss N. Tribe

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ALL BUSINESS COMMUNICATIONS *to be addressed to The Manager,* THE COMMON CAUSE, 2, *Robert Street, Adelphi, W.C., and all* ADVERTISEMENTS *must reach the Office not later than first post on Tuesday. Advertisement Representative, S. R. Le Mare.*

NOTICE.—*This paper is obtainable at newsagents and bookstalls by midday on Friday. If any difficulty is found in obtaining it locally, please communicate with The Manager,* THE COMMON CAUSE.

The National Union of Women's Suffrage Societies being a body which exists solely to obtain the enfranchisement of women, holds no official view upon any other topic. Opinions expressed upon other subjects must not be regarded as necessarily those of the Union.

The Bishop of London's Bill.

The Bishop of London's Bill further to amend the Criminal Law Amendment Acts of 1880 and 1885 is expected to reach Committee stage this month, and at an important meeting held in its support at Caxton Hall last Friday a resolution was passed expressing the hope that the Bill will be passed by the House of Lords, and that the Government may be induced to take it up and place it on the Statute Book during the present session. Those interested in the Bill urge that similar resolutions be passed by organisations for promoting public welfare throughout the country, and forwarded to the proper quarter during the next few weeks.

There is a story told of a guest being taken over a very beautiful and well-ordered garden. He walked in a somewhat bored silence while its glories were spread out before him, until at last, gazing into a shady corner, he observed, "There is a weed." And so it is, in every field the tares grow with the wheat, and there are many who have only eyes for these tares. To the President of the League for Opposing Woman Suffrage, the woman's movement goes but to prove the mental instability of women, while a lady patroness of that organisation sees only in the tragic fate of Laura Grey—whose life story, so sordid, of such weakness, of such nobility, has awed into silence most decent men and women—sees only in this, a moral with which to preach down our daughters' hearts. But what is the woman's movement to those who know? What is its work? Is it finding its goal?

We think of Mrs. Butler and her martyrdom of twenty years, we think of her ideally happy married life offered as a sacrifice, and we think of the "common people," the upright workingmen, who heard her gladly while "the world" fired the barn where she was preaching her gospel. We think of the women medical students, at whom the Edinburgh undergraduates threw their mud and their stones. We think of the women who gave their lives' service to free the slaves and were forbidden—because it was against religion—to speak in the London Convention. We go further back, to a time more distant—before the pioneers—in the cold, cold dawn of the Grand Idea, the time of that grey company, "the Lord's lone sentinels," immortalised by Jessie Mackay's words:—

"The Lord's lone sentinels,
Dotted down the years,
The little grey company
Before the pioneers.

* * * * * * *

"In each other's faces
Looked the pioneers;
Drank the wine of courage
All their battle years.
For their weary sowing
Through the world wide
Green they saw the harvest
Ere the day they died.

"But the grey, grey company
Stood every man alone
In the chilly dawn light.
Scarcely had they known

Ere the day they perished,
That their beacon star
Was not glint of marsh-light
In the shadows far.

" Be laurel to the victor,
And roses to the fair,
And asphodel Elysian
Let the hero wear;
But lay the maiden lilies
Upon their narrow biers—
The lone grey company
Before the pioneers."

Our thoughts are turned even to one Mary Smith who sent a petition to Parliament for the enfranchisement of her sex, signed with her own name alone. Thus reviewing the past, we take courage. The grey company are lost in the years gone by, the pioneers have marched along, and their high trust is handed on to us of to-day, upon whom are the stains of battle, but with whom the victory is drawing very near.

Two years ago, after Mr. Stead went down in the " Titanic," a wave of public feeling carried through the Criminal Law Amendment Bill then before Parliament—this month again the duty is laid upon us to see that the public shall demand the immediate passage of the Bishop's Bill. No matter that if it passes they will say, " Lo, all that women wish is done for them, they need no votes." Such triumphs are but the winning of outposts. The granting of the franchise will be the earnest of the final victory. The ancient fortress has still to fall—that fortress built of the prejudices and passions of evil men, and of evil women, with the so-called womanly woman too often as their tool and dupe. Seven times the women must march round it, and seven times again, and then it will fall. Faith has been defined as the faculty by which we believe those things which we know cannot possibly be true, and the definition is adequate. By faith great military commanders have risen to fame and fortune, by faith Father Damien made life liveable for the lepers, by faith Florence Nightingale saved the army and founded the nursing profession, by faith the women suffragists of to-day ally themselves with the great forces consciously or unconsciously on their side, and by faith they will slay that old dragon, " Let be, let be, lest worse befall." They know that worse will befall, for light cannot meet darkness and prevail without the loss of many lives, without a last struggle beside which all that has gone before is but child's play—but light meeting darkness will finally prevail. The two camps are in battle array, and of the issue there can be no doubt. Dr. Paton said last week, " temptation is a storm, and he wins through whose will is strong and whose anchor is sure." The suffragist and those with them have proclaimed their creed and uttered their battle-cry—it is the creed of Charles Kingsley that the men can be pure and the women brave —a simple, womanly, even childish thought, yet that and no less is what we are out for, it is that and no less the women demand before they cease from the spiritual fight. It is that which men of science and religion have denied in the past and which women in their ignorance and weakness have only tremblingly yearned for; but the women of to-day having knowledge and strength are drawing to themselves as allies the men of religion and of science, and they will prevail. Let us think one grateful thought of that " lone, grey company " and take courage.

[*We insert with great pleasure the following valuable article contributed by Sir Victor Horsley, F.R.S. The second article on " The Town of Women," by Our Commissioner, will appear next week.*]

The Portsmouth Meeting on the Causes of Prostitution and its Relation to Anti-Suffragism.

The public meeting held at the close of the Conference of the International Federation for the Abolition of State Regulation of Vice was in every way a very successful end to a successful Conference, but particularly because the large audience displayed so warmly their recognition of the truth that social evils such as prostitution can only be successfully fought by both men and women standing side by side in equal political power and in complete co-operation. After a forcible and too brief introduction from the popular Chairman, the Rev. C. H. Hamilton, Dr. Helen Wilson gave the results of her interesting inquiries into the immediate conditions under which prostitution is entered upon by many individuals. The duty put upon myself was a discussion of the various factors which lead to prostitution.

Prostitution is a disease of the body politic, and, like most diseases difficult to cure, is not due to one factor only but to several. We are all aware (though we do not all act on our knowledge) that a direct responsibility for prostitution lies heavily on the drink trade as a most potent cause both of this horrible evil and of its concomitant venereal diseases. So, too, the social intense discomforts of foul houses and the physical and moral results of overcrowding, eloquently spoken of by Councillor Mactavish, and, above all, the economic factor of sub-minimal starvation wages, all these cause both vice and disease.

But though each of these intolerable causes is now studied and slowly and ineffectively approached by our male governing authorities, there yet remains another cause of prostitution of which less notice is taken, but which is not a whit less important. And that is Anti-suffragism. The whole basis and principle of Anti-suffragism rests on the deliberate despising, contempt, and therefore degradation of womanhood. Just as the Anti-suffragists call on their fellow-citizens to despise their wives, mothers, sisters, and daughters and to refuse them all political rights on the ground of their degraded inferiority, just so surely does that contempt breed degradation and ultimately immorality.

The ideal popular excuse of a young man *only* sowing his " wild oats," is the direct outcome of this Anti-suffragist contempt for the field in which that repulsive crop is sown, and which is reaped by his victims and his relatives and not by the young man himself.

So, too, the abominable and unashamed claim of Lord Mersey for men that they should be, as a matter of course, allowed " accidental " gratification of their vicious desires at the cost of womanhood is entirely due to the same spirit of contempt and derision for women's intellectuality which is the whole ground of Anti-suffragism. The position of women in this respect now in this country, and where the Anti-suffragists wish to keep them, is exactly that of the slaves in the old civilisations of Rome, &c., and in which their despised and inferior status led to their being more easily made the instruments of the vices of their masters. Even in our family circles the boy is led to think of his mother and sister as inferior—*i.e.*, beings on a lower, more degraded, scale than himself, and in due fulfilment of their national upbringing the boys who were mustered the other day in Hyde Park to celebrate the Empire, flatly refused to allow the girls' organisations to take any part. The older Universities, Oxford and Cambridge, in their attitude towards women and towards their education are but continuations of school life, and perpetuate this Anti-suffragist contempt of women with inevitable consequences which, unfortunately, the medical profession knows only too well.

Let me say in conclusion what a pleasure it was to see at the Portsmouth meeting a wonderfully representative gathering giving instant reflex response to these facts.

It was another illustration of the strength of truths psychically associated.

Many who know social and scientific facts do not necessarily connect them causally, but as the meeting abundantly showed, the people of our old, slow-moving country are now fully realising what our cousins in the Dominions long ago did—namely, that the real nexus which is wanted is the vote, and that it must be in the hands of every man and every woman in the Empire to make that great social organisation complete, effective, and able to combat its horrible diseases.

VICTOR HORSLEY.

THE BISHOP OF LONDON AND "THE COMMON CAUSE."

In the course of an interview with the Bishop of London this week, a representative of THE COMMON CAUSE mentioned the deep interest which our readers are taking in the prospects of his Bill for raising the Age of Consent. This Bill is expected to reach its final stages in the Lords almost immediately. Its provisions are as follows :—

" To raise the age at which a girl may legally 'consent' from 13 to 16 in the case of an indecent assault, and from 16 to 18 in the case of a criminal assault; to lengthen the time within which proceedings may be taken against an offender from 6 months to 12; and to abolish the clause in the Act of 1885 making it a valid defence against a charge of assault that the offender 'had reasonable cause to believe' that the girl was above the statutory age of consent."

It is understood that the Bishop entertains great hopes of the success of his Bill, but he specially begged that we would call attention to certain points in danger of being overlooked, as for example, in regard to the raising of the age from 13 to 16 at which the consent of a young person of either sex is a defence

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Speakers: Miss Margaret Hodge, Mrs. Leathes, Mrs. Montefiore, Mrs. Wybergh, Mrs. Pethick Lawrence, Mrs. Cecil Chapman, Lady Aberconway, Rev. F. M. Green, Mrs. Auerbach.
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to a charge of indecent assault—it is not fully realised, he believes, how distressingly common are these cases of criminal assault on children and young girls. This is a point upon which the Bishop of Kensington strongly endorses the view held by the Bishop of London, for, speaking at a meeting in Caxton Hall last Friday night, convened by the London Council for the Promotion of Public Morality, in support of the Age of Consent Bill, he called attention to the following facts: Mrs. Bramwell Booth has given the figures for one year of girls under 16 indecently assaulted as 316, the N.S.P.C.C. gives 404, various other societies give an experience of 793, and twenty-nine London Diocesan Homes report another 179, giving a terrible total of reported cases—which form, indeed, but a fraction of the full number—of some 1,700. In a very large proportion of cases, a near relative of the children is the offender. It is further reported from thirty Diocesan Homes that 132 cases are those of girls between 16 and 18.

The Bishop of London desires us to point out that the reports submitted by the late Mr. F. Shore Bullock, of Scotland Yard, further emphasise the dangers attendant upon a low age of consent:—

"Still more damaging criticism has been made against the law relating to indecent assault on young persons, which provides that a conviction cannot be sustained if the consent of a young person over the age of 13 is obtained; this appears to many to be a provision of very doubtful expediency."

And again:—

"The experience of those engaged in rescue work strongly inclines them to the belief that up to the age of 18 girls require the protection of the law. In spite of appearances, girls up to this age are ignorant and incapable of appreciating the consequences of their acts until it is too late, and if protection is to be effectual and real, their consent, if consent can ever really be proved, ought not to avail to shield the culprit who takes advantage of them to their ruin."

Again, in regard to the six months' limit for prosecution of offenders, the Bishop attaches considerable importance to the fact that the Association of Poor Law Unions of England and Wales regards the extension of this limit to twelve months as an "absolute necessity," and has pressed the Government to deal with the matter without delay, their experience being that when girls of 15 or 16 years are received into workhouse lying-in wards, the hands of the authorities are paralysed because no action can be taken, as the six months' limit expired before the girls came into the House. The Bishop is an exceedingly busy man, and it was not possible for him to enter exhaustively into every detail of the case for his Bill with our representative, but those who desire to acquaint themselves with the full expression of his views would do well, while the fate of the Bill is still pending, to get and read for themselves, "Parliamentary Debates," House of Lords, Vol. 15, No. 30 (Wyman & Sons, Ltd., 29, Bream's Buildings, Fetter Lane, E.C., price 3d.), where they will find a full report of this speech introducing the Second Reading in the Lords, on April 29th. Evidences of widespread support for the Bill are not lacking. The meeting at Caxton Hall referred to above was crowded to overflowing. Mr. Coote, of the National Vigilance Association, there stated that resolutions in favour of the Bill had been forwarded by the Young Women's Christian Association and Girls' Friendly Societies on behalf of over 200,000 members, and that similar resolutions had already been passed in over fifty constituencies; and Lord Kinnaird, the Chairman, speaking on behalf of the Young Men's Christian Association, said they strongly supported the Lord Bishop of London in his Bill, and he earnestly hoped it would soon become law. Lord Selborne and Mrs. Creighton also spoke in support, and Dr. Scott Lidgett, on behalf of the Free Churches, expressed the indebtedness of every Church to the Bishop for his Bill. The resolution proposed on this occasion was carried unanimously. It runs as follows:—

"That this meeting expresses the hope that the Criminal Law Amendment Bill, introduced into the House of Lords by the Right Hon. and Right Reverend The Lord Bishop of London, for the purpose of raising the 'Age of Consent' and otherwise amending the Criminal Law Amendment Act, 1885, will be passed by the House of Lords, and that the Government may be induced to take it up, and place it on the Statute Book, during the present Session."

In an interview with *The Daily News* (which is giving vigorous support), Dr. Lidgett dealt in the following commonsense way with the "blackmail" bogey:—

"I realise that there is something in the blackmail objection. It is reasonable that inexperienced boys should be protected as well as inexperienced girls, but I think the difficulty would be met by bringing under the operation of the clause the case of any girl proved to have deliberately entangled a youth, and tried to deceive him as to her age. . . .

"Moreover, it must be remembered that the cry of the blackmail danger was raised in just the same way in 1885, when the age was changed from 13 to 16, and all the prophecies of that day have been signally falsified. We have the testimony of so experienced a worker among the young as the Director of the N.S.P.C.C. that he has never

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known of a single instance in which blackmail has been successfully attempted under the circumstances suggested by the critics of the 1885 measure."

Among other expressions of the general demand is a petition which has been presented to the Lords signed by 291 peeresses and wives of spiritual peers.

The whole matter may be summed up in the words of Mrs. Creighton, spoken at the Caxton Hall: "It is a necessary reform, not only for the sake of the girl, but for our whole social system. . . . It used to be thought that prostitution was a necessary evil. We have to believe firmly that it is not necessary—to realise what it means. . . . We are going to show that we can't be tired out in our efforts."

WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE AND LABOUR DEMONSTRATION IN MANCHESTER.

The joint Women's Suffrage and Labour demonstration held in Manchester on Saturday afternoon last was a great success; and Suffragists of the district were very proud that Mrs. Fawcett came down to lead them. Among the organisations taking part were the following:—

"WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE: Manchester and District Federation, Men's League, and Free Church League. LABOUR: Manchester and Salford Trades and Labour Council; Manchester, Salford, and District Women's Trade Union Council; Manchester and Salford I.L.P. Federation; Manchester Women's Labour League; the Altrincham and Ashton-under-Lyne Trades and Labour Councils; Rochdale Labour Party; Heywood and District I.L.P. Federation; Rochdale and Walshaw Branches of the I.L.P., and the Amalgamated Society of Musicians."

To Platt Fields, Rusholme, where the speeches were delivered, there was a procession from Albert Square, in front of the Town Hall. Although last year some six hundred sympathisers marched with the Pilgrims from Manchester to Stockport, it is several years since a Suffrage procession was organised in Manchester, and much interest was naturally shown along the two and a half miles of the route. Mrs. Fawcett and Councillor Margaret Ashton were to the fore in cap and gown. In the University section walked Professor Alexander and Professor C. H. Herford. Behind the banner of the Manchester and District Federation came the banners and representatives of the Accrington, Altrincham, Bolton, Chinley, Eccles, Knutsford, Macclesfield, Manchester (including the South Salford Branch, the Hulme Club, and the Bradford and Ancoats Suffrage and Labour Clubs), Marple, Oldham, Rochdale, and Wilmslow Societies. Many of the forty Societies in the Federation that did not send their banners were represented in the procession by members. The Men's League, the Free Church League, and the Manchester and Salford Women's Trade Union Council supplied good contingents. Conspicuous in the procession was a business representative of the *Daily Citizen* with the banner of that journal.

A big crowd had gathered in Platt Fields before the arrival of the procession, and during the meeting some three thousand people must have gathered round the three platforms. Besides Mrs. Fawcett, Miss Ashton, and Miss Margaret Robertson, the speakers were:—

Mr. J. A. Seddon, Chairman of the Parliamentary Committee of the Trade Unions Congress; Mr. J. E. Sutton, Labour M.P. for East Manchester; Mr. J. H. Hudson, prospective Labour candidate for Eccles; Miss M. Price, Women's Labour League; Councillor Tom Fox, Councillor R. J. Davies, the Rev. Herbert Dunnico (Liverpool), Mr. Fenner Brockway, and Mr. Thatcher.

The crowd round Mrs. Fawcett's platform was too big for THE COMMON CAUSE representative to hear more than a word or two of the speeches, but it was something to feel the influence of her presence on the crowd. Miss Ashton had her thousand people cheering and laughing at her answers to questions, particularly those put by a perfectly courteous man who wanted to know what the National Union expected to gain by its election policy. Miss Robertson, after an impressive account of how the women of Colorado intervened in the strike war, and Miss Darlington, after seeing her organisation working well, had to hurry away to Accrington. The Labour speeches were excellent. Mr. Sutton, M.P., while denouncing militancy, urged every man and every woman to work night and day for women's enfranchisement. Mr. Tom Fox, in reply to a question, said that from his inside knowledge, Women's Suffrage would be one of the points in the programme of the Labour Party at the next General Election. At all three platforms the following resolution was carried by an overwhelming majority:—

"That this meeting, organised by the National Union of Women's Suffrage Societies, the Manchester Labour Party, the Men's League for Women's Suffrage, and the Free Church League for Women's Suffrage, demands a Government measure for Women's Suffrage."

The Men's League and the Free Church League, as well as the N.U. members, were active in distributing literature. Mr. F. Stanton Barnes and Mr. C. Maher were the chief marshals. The police present had nothing to do but to form, as usual, an appreciative audience. The Manchester and District Federation and its Societies hardly ever encounter any hostility or "larking" at their meetings, and the many open-air meetings this year have been particularly friendly and successful. So much for popular feeling in the North.

It was announced at the demonstration that the Manchester Society, as the result of their "Lightning Campaign" of individual effort and open-air propaganda, had enlisted six hundred new members in the last fortnight.

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A Cathedral Service.

On Sunday afternoon, the service at the Manchester Cathedral was attended by some five hundred Suffragists, including many who took part in the previous day's demonstration, and many who did not. A space in the centre of the Cathedral was reserved by direction of the Dean and Chapter, and 350 tickets were issued by the Federation on application, but the reserved space was overflowed. A portion gathered in Albert Square before the service and marched with Mrs. Fawcett and Miss Ashton to the Cathedral. Against the action of the Chapter in this matter, the Dean of Manchester (Bishop Welldon) received a complaint from the League for Opposing Women's Suffrage, to which he replied in a cogent letter to the press:—

"In our judgment it cannot but be a good thing that the representatives of Labour and the advocates of Women's Suffrage should be willing, and even anxious, to associate themselves and their movements with the public worship of Almighty God. . . . We look upon the Cathedral as a house of prayer for all persons, whatever their opinions may be, who prosecute such objects as are lawful in themselves by lawful means, and who desire to seek the ministry of the Church."

Bishop Welldon spoke in lofty terms both of the Labour Movement and the Women's Movement. If, he said, he had to describe his political creed in one word it would be the word "Democracy." While carefully refraining from expressing any opinion on the political claim to the franchise, and saying much of other powerful and beneficent influences of women on the community, he repeated again and again with earnestness the words of his text, "Look up, for your redemption draweth nigh."

Accrington.

On Saturday, June 27th, Accrington held its first Suffrage and Labour Demonstration. The procession paraded through the main streets and thoroughfares. The dense crowds which lined the streets throughout the whole route seemed greatly impressed. The banners were splendid, especially that of the National Union of Railwaymen.

Owing to the rain in the earlier part of the day, the rest of the proceedings was held in the Town Hall, where a very large audience was addressed by Miss Margaret Robertson, Miss Price, Mr. Archbold, and Mr. Fenner Brockway. Mr. Constantine was in the chair. A resolution demanding a Government measure for Women's Suffrage was carried unanimously. Much literature was sold, also badges and copies of The Common Cause, and new members enrolled.

INTERNATIONAL SUFFRAGE CONGRESS.

From July 8th to 11th, meetings of the International Woman Suffrage Alliance Board of Officers will be held at the Headquarters of the Alliance, 7, Adam Street, Adelphi, London, W.C. The Board consists of the following officers:—

President, Mrs. Chapman Catt, of New York, President of the International Alliance, who is now General Superintendent of Schools in Iowa, U.S.A.; First Vice-President, Mrs. Henry Fawcett, LL.D., President of the N.U.W.S.S.; Second Vice-President, Miss Annie Furuhjelm, a member of the Finnish Diet; Third Vice-President, Mrs. Anna Lindemann, Vice-President of the German Suffrage Union, wife to Dr. Hugo Lindemann, member of the Wurtemburg Diet, and leader of the Social-Democratic party in Wurtemburg; Fourth Vice-President, Mrs de Witte de Schlumberger, President of the French Suffrage Union; First Cor. Secretary, Mrs. Stanley McCormick, Treasurer of the National American Woman Suffrage Association; Second Cor. Secretary, Mrs. Rosika Schwimmer, Ex-president of the Hungarian W.S.S., and an international lecturer and journalist; First Rec. Secretary, Miss Chrystal Macmillan, M.A., B.Sc., who pleaded in person before the House of Lords, in November, 1900, in the claim of women graduates to the Parliamentary vote; Second Rec. Secretary, Mrs. Marie Stritt, President of the German Suffrage Union, Ex-president of the German National Council of Women, and founder of the first German society for the legal protection of women; First Treasurer, Mrs. Stanton Coit, member of the Committee of the London Society, wife of the well-known ethical lecturer; Second Treasurer, Miss Signe Bergman, President of the Swedish Society for W.S., who assisted Dr. Bather, of the British Museum, in translating Nardenskjold's cartography, and is now chief cashier at the State Bank at Stockholm.

"THE COMMON CAUSE" SELLERS.

Regular street sellers are beginning to go away for their summer holidays, and from now to September there will be every week one or more of the pitches needing help, if it is to be served without a break. So that names of volunteers who can undertake to sell for a few weeks will be very welcome, and should be sent to Miss Gosse, L.S.W.S., 58, Victoria Street, S.W.

BUSINESS ACUMEN OF WOMEN.

A tribute to the value of women in business was paid by Mr. Walter Judd, chairman of Messrs. Heywood and Co., Limited, at the annual meeting of the company. He was a great believer, he said, in the business acumen of women. The firm's secretary was one of the most intelligent women he had been associated with in business, and a great deal of their success was owing to her mature judgment. He added that he considered that most of the present-day young men are slackers, and the result of this slackness would be that the coming male generation would find it more and more difficult to hold their own, owing to the competition they would have to share with women.

SUPPORT OUR ADVERTISERS and mention THE COMMON CAUSE when ordering goods.

Notes from Headquarters.

The National Union of Women's Suffrage Societies.
President: MRS. HENRY FAWCETT, LL.D.

Hon. Secretaries:
MISS K. D. COURTNEY.
MISS C. E. MARSHALL (Parliamentary).
MISS EMILY M. LEAF (Press).
MISS EVELYN ATKINSON (Literature).

Hon. Treasurer:
MRS. AUERBACH.

Secretary:
MISS CROOKENDEN.

Offices: Parliament Chambers, 14, Great Smith Street, Westminster, London, S.W.
Telegraphic Address—Voiceless, London. Telephone Number—1960 Victoria.

Treasurer's Notes.

Among the week's donations we have again received a little collection of trinkets sent to us "in lieu of money." We offer Miss Moseley, the kind sender, our most grateful thanks.

The military correspondent of *The Times*, writing recently on the Ulster Volunteers and the Irish National Volunteers, said: "The people of Ireland have a cause which they consider worth sacrifice and effort, and the possession of such a cause is worth all other motives for effort in the world." We can substitute "women of the British Isles" for the words "people of Ireland," and then we can apply this sentence to ourselves and we shall echo every word of it with profound conviction; for Suffragists believe with all their strength that theirs is a cause worth sacrifice and effort, and they are daily giving proof of it. No day goes by but we receive some offering to our cause, whether it be in money or in personal service, and each offering represents sacrifice and effort on the part of our countrywomen.

We challenge any other political organisation in the country to show a similar record of sacrifice and effort. When the National League for Opposing Women's Suffrage can show anything on their part corresponding to the activity and devotion such as are inspired by Suffragist ideals, then, and not till then, need the opposition to Women's Suffrage be taken seriously.

Every donation sent us is a fresh token of the efforts which Suffragists are making, is a fresh guarantee of our coming victory, a renewal of our courage and our hope; and we may truly paraphrase the words quoted above and say "the possession of such a cause as ours is worth all other motives for effort in the world."

Press Report.

During the first week in July the Press Department hopes that it will receive the information which the Federations are undertaking to collect, and for which printed cards were recently issued. The collection of full returns from the whole country is very important.

We are asked specially to notice this week the following papers which have been doing excellent work for Women's Suffrage in the provinces:—

The Essex and Halstead Times, Halstead and Colne Valley Gazette, The Nottingham Guardian, The Northampton Echo, The Leicester Pioneer, The Central Somerset Gazette, The Southern Times, The Weymouth Telegram, The Mid Sussex Times, The Western Daily Mercury, The Mid Devon and Newton Times, The Torbay News, The Staffordshire Advertiser, The Tenby Observer, The Mid Cumberland and North Westmorland Herald, The West Cumberland Times, The Newcastle Daily Journal.

Once again we wish to call the attention of all Suffragists to the series of articles by Constitutional Suffragists appearing in *The Daily Graphic*. Two other papers which have been doing splendid service during the last few months in London are *The Islington Daily Gazette* and *The Kensington News*. On the political side, interesting articles should specially be noted this week in *The New Statesman* and *The Nation*.

Election Fighting Fund.

	£	s.	d.
Already acknowledged since November 1st, 1913 ...	1,041	11	4
Miss M. and Miss N. O'Shea	5	0	0
A Norwich Member, per Norwich W.S.S.		2	6
Miss E. L. Willis	1	1	0
Mrs. Todd, two quarterly instalments	1	6	0
Mrs. Stanton Coit (Women's Suffrage Mandate Fund) ...	50	0	0
Miss Fannie S. Jarvis ...		10	6
Miss Eileen M. F. Blake ...		10	0
Miss I. M. Beath		5	0
Rt. Hon. Jonathan Hogg ...	10	0	0
Mrs. J. Purdie	10	0	0
Miss A. M. Allen	5	0	0
Miss Glyde	2	0	0
Miss D. Ellis		2	6
	1,143	8	10

Special Appeal.

Mrs. M. L. Hodgson	10	0	0
Mrs. Cowell	5	0	0
Miss Edith Briant	1	0	0

£50 from Mrs. Bernard Shaw acknowledged in THE COMMON CAUSE of June 19th was sent in response to the Special Appeal.

Owing to lack of space we are obliged to hold over the contributions to the General Fund.

The Ideal House Shoe

5/11 PER PAIR. (Postage 4d.)

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are British made from the softest real Glace Kid and the most flexible solid British Leather, perfectly put together by a special process which renders them the most comfortable and silent shoes obtainable. It is impossible for them to squeak. Invaluable in the home, and a boon to shop assistants, nurses, &c. Made in narrow, medium, and hygienic shape toes, in all sizes and half-sizes. One price—5/11 per pair (postage 4d., two pairs post free).

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A skin food which whitens and refines. In pots, 1/6, 2/6 and 5/-.

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22 ins., price £1 5s. MISS M. LUCAS advises Ladies on change of style, etc.

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Saturdays: 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.
I guarantee every pair of glasses for ten years.

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News from the Societies and Federations.

Kentish Federation.—*Continued.*

CANTERBURY.—Miss Cooke addressed a large open-air meeting on Monday evening, May 25th. A collection was taken, and eighteen copies of THE COMMON CAUSE were sold.

A very good open-air meeting was held in the evening June 10th. The speaker, Mrs. Rackham, held the attention of a large and increasing audience for over an hour. The collection amounted to 9s. 6d.

FAVERSHAM.—Miss Cooke addressed an open-air meeting on Saturday evening, May 22nd. The audience was particularly attentive and sympathetic. Miss Murray was in the chair. Twelve copies of THE COMMON CAUSE were sold.

FOLKESTONE AND HYTHE.—On May 27th, a meeting arranged by the local branch of the N.U.W.S.S. in co-operation with the Conservative and Unionist Women's Franchise Association, took place in the Town Hall, Folkestone. The chair was taken at 3.30 p.m. by Lady Jane Taylor. Miss Hay Cooper (N.U.W.S.S.) made a most instructive speech. Lady Betty Balfour gave an excellent speech dealing with the Anti-suffrage arguments used by the opponents to the Selborne Bill.

MAIDSTONE.—Miss Geraldine Cooke gave an excellent address on May 20th to a meeting of members in the Mechanics' Hall at 3.15 p.m., and she spoke in the evening at Faumeadows. She also spoke outside the Sessions House, one Thursday, to an audience composed mainly of men, Miss Griffith-Jones in the chair.

MARGATE.—A good meeting was held on Tuesday afternoon, May 19th, in Cecil Square. The audience showed great interest in the Cause, and a big number gathered again at 7 p.m., when Miss Cooke again spoke to them. Thirty copies of THE COMMON CAUSE were sold, and a collection was taken. A whist drive was held in the Foresters' Hall on May 25th. Speeches were given by the President, Mrs. Southey, and Mrs. Marion Holmes.

NORTHFLEET.—An open-air meeting was held on May 24th by invitation of the local Branch of the I.L.P. Miss Geraldine Cooke was the speaker. The night was very cold, and the audience was small but sympathetic. Miss Cooke spoke mainly on "The Industrial Position of Women." No questions were asked.

ROCHESTER.—Miss Cooke addressed a meeting of members in Mrs Coleman's garden on May 21st, and a very successful open-air meeting was held the same evening, when Miss Cooke again spoke, and Mr. Turner took the chair. Twenty copies of THE COMMON CAUSE were sold.

An interesting debate—Suffragist and Anti—was held on May 25th at the Masonic Hall. The chair was taken by Mr. Stedman. The Suffragist Cause was championed by Miss Conway Gaden, and as no "Antis" accepted the challenge, the other side was taken by Mr. Cobbett-Barker and by the Rev. Morgan Whiteman. A garden meeting was held at the residence of the Hon. Secretary on June 11th, when Mrs. Rackman gave a stirring speech. A small stall of household articles and cakes brought in £3.

SEVENOAKS.—The first of a series of open-air meetings was held on June 13th. Miss Thompson, of Brentwood, addressed a large and attentive audience. One member and two "Friends" were gained, and eleven copies of THE COMMON CAUSE were sold.

SITTINGBOURNE.—Miss Cooke held an open-air meeting on May 27th. She had a most sympathetic audience. On June 9th, a drawing-room meeting was held at Ruthven—Hostess, Mrs. Bryen—when Miss Griffith-Jones gave an enthusiastic address and outlined the plan for a summer campaign.

TONBRIDGE.—The Society joined with other local organisations in arranging a Sweated Industries Exhibition, which was held on May 19th at the Public Hall. The speakers were Mr. Malen and Miss Jennie Ward. The exhibition was a financial success.

On May 26th, a meeting was held at the Angel Corner. Mr. Blake took the chair, and the speaker was Miss Geraldine Cooke. A large and attentive audience was present. Sixteen "Friends" cards were signed, and a collection was taken.

TUNBRIDGE WELLS.—A tea meeting in the garden of the Girls' Leisure Hour Club took place on Monday, June 10th, when Lady Matthews held the attention of the girls for nearly an hour with a most telling address, resulting in a large number of "Friends" being added to the Society. Mrs. Cuthbert Adeney took the chair.

June 18th.—A meeting was held at the Offices of the Society, when Miss Griffith-Jones spoke on the Active Service League. An open-air meeting on the Common was arranged for the same evening, Miss Griffith-Jones speaking again. There was no disorder; the audience were thoroughly interested, and showed sympathy with the movement.

May 27th—By kind invitation of Miss Coulson James and Miss Power, a well-attended meeting under the joint auspices of the C.U.W.F.A. and N.U. was held at East Court, Woodbury Park Road. Lady Betty Balfour gave an inspiring address, and both Associations gained adherents and sold literature.

Active Service League.

Helpers and financial aid are urgently needed in the undermentioned districts for the following weeks:

July 3rd, 4th, and 5th, for Sevenoaks. July 27th to August 1st, for New Romney and Littlestone, Dover, St. Margaret's Bay, Walmer, Deal, Sandwich. August 3rd to August 8th for a week in Maidstone district. August 10th to 15th.—Lydd, Appledore, Tenterden district. August 10th to 18th.—A week in Sittingbourne and district. August 31st to September 5th.—Herne Bay District.

Other weeks in the district of Isle of Sheppey, also in Bexley, Sidcup, Dartford, Northfleet and Gravesend districts.

North Eastern Federation.

DARLINGTON SOCIETY.—A drawing-room meeting was held on Friday, May 29th, at Thornbeck Collegiate School. Hostesses—Misses Reid and Taylor—Speaker, Miss Alice Low. Three members and three "Friends" were gained.

On Monday, June 15th, the annual meeting was held, and the following resolution carried unanimously:—"That this Society, whilst opposed to militancy, desires to protest against forcible feeding of political prisoners, and holds the Government responsible for the removal of the causes of discontent amongst women, and urgently calls for the introduction of a Women's Suffrage Bill during the present session." Mrs. A. F. Pease has retired from the Presidency, and Mr. Frank Smethson, an I.L.P. man, has been elected.

June 18th—Garden Party held at Polam Hall. Hostess, Mrs. Baynes. Owing to a thunderstorm, the attendance was much smaller than usual, about 100 being present. Mrs. A. F. Pease took the chair, and Mrs. Renton gave an excellent address. About three dozen copies of THE COMMON CAUSE were sold. Six new members gained.

DURHAM.—The annual meeting of the Durham Society was held at the Burlison Art Gallery on Friday, June 12th. An address was given by Mr. Nigel O. Parry, B.A.

EASINGTON.—On June 4th the members of the new Easington and District Society, which had been formed at a drawing-room meeting held at the Rectory on April 22nd, met again at the Rectory by kind permission of the Rev. A. West. Rules and constitution were adopted, and a committee was elected, with the following officers:—Chairman, Mrs. Elliott; Hon. Secretary, Miss West; Hon. Treasurer, Mrs. Gewen; Delegate to Federation Committee, Mrs. Lawson.

GATESHEAD SOCIETY.—Following on the weekly meetings held during the six winter months, four meetings of the Study Circle were held at 23, Oxford Terrace. These were well attended and appreciated, everyone taking part in the discussions. The book read was, "The Future of the Women's Movement," by Mrs. Swanwick. Mrs. Powell read and opened the discussions.

HOUGHTON-LE-SPRING.—A meeting for members and "Friends" was held at the Studio on Wednesday, May 27th, by kind permission of the Secretary, Mrs. Atkinson. Miss Andrews spoke to the audience about the N.-E. Derby By-election, at which she had been present.

The joint organisation committee for this constituency is holding meetings in each place where there is an I.L.P. branch or Suffrage Society. The local Labour Party has been formed, its constitution drawn up, and a candidate selected. Mr. W. P. Richardson is the selected man, and in him we have a good Suffragist. His candidature is endorsed by the Durham Miners' Association and the National Federation of Miners, and the "send-off" demonstration is to be arranged at the executive meeting on June 20th.

NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.—A meeting was held in the Lovaine Hall on Tuesday, May 26th. There was an excellent attendance, and Miss Alice Low spoke on the Women's Suffrage Bill in the House of Lords. Miss C. M. Gordon took the chair in place of Mr. Dakers, who was unable at the last minute to come. Dr Mabel Campbell and Miss Hilda Manson acted a short duologue, which greatly delighted the audience. Fifteen new members were obtained; thirty copies of THE COMMON CAUSE were sold, and £1 15s. taken in the collection.

A jumble sale was held in Bentinck Mission Hall on June 6th. £7 was realized.

On Wednesday, June 10th, an open-air meeting was held at Byker Bank, Heaton. Speakers, Mr Mitchell and Miss Andrew. A number of "Friends" signed cards.

A second meeting was held at Heaton, in Albion Road on Friday, June 12th. Speakers, Dr. Ethel Williams, Miss Gordon, and Miss Andrew. There has been friendly heckling at both meetings.

OUSTON.—May 11th, 2.30—There was a very good attendance in spite of the early hour. Miss Robertson's speech was greatly enjoyed. Fifteen members joined; twenty-four copies of THE COMMON CAUSE sold; collection, 5s. 6d.

May 21st—As many members were anxious to form a Society. Miss Low addressed a further meeting in the Miners' Hall. The illuminating way in which she dealt with the facts of women's work and wages was greatly enjoyed by her audience. Seven new members joined. Mrs. Hare kindly consented to be Secretary for the meantime, and Mrs. Sayer was elected Treasurer.

SEAHAM.—A meeting was held in the Londonderry Institute on Tuesday, May 26th, to inaugurate a branch of the National Union of Women's Suffrage Society at Seaham. The chief features of the meeting were the drawing-up of various rules for the guidance of the Society and the election of officers. The following were chosen:—Secretary, Miss Grimes; Treasurer, Mr. Jennings; Press Secretary, Miss Laing, B.A. Miss Hunter was selected to be delegate at the committee meetings of the North Eastern Federation. It was also decided that the following form the committee: Mrs. Crawford, Miss Murray, Mrs. Tait, Mr Jones, Mrs. Jennings, Mrs. Jones, Mrs. Hunter, and Mrs. Jeffries. It is intended to hold open-air meetings during the summer months.

SHOTLEY BRIDGE SOCIETY.—A drawing-room meeting was held at Derwent Dene on Friday, June 5th. Miss Walton-Wilson was hostess, and also took the chair. Miss Gordon and Miss Pelle spoke. Officers were elected, and a discussion on the N.U. by-election policy took place.

WEST STANLEY SOCIETY.—A social was held in the Co-operative Hall on Saturday, May 16th. There was a very large gathering. Mr. James, of, West Stanley, took the chair. Literature was sold, and some new members gained. Refreshments were provided by the members.

SUNDERLAND.—Open-air meeting at Roker, May 27th. Chair, Mr. R. J. Wilson. Speakers, Miss Gordon, M.A., and Miss Sheard.

WASHINGTON.—May 7th—Two meetings were held in Co-operative Hall, New Washington, at both of which the Vicar of Usworth, the Rev. Alex. Begg, presided. Miss Robertson gave an impressive speech on the reasons why women who were anxious for temperance and social reform were working for Suffrage. Twenty-five members joined; collection, 26s.

In the evening, Councillor W. Smith gave an interesting address, and then Miss Robertson spoke on "The Modern Ideals of Womanhood" to an enthusiastic audience. Ten new members joined.

May 21st—Rev. Mr. Begg once more showed his interest in the Suffrage cause by taking the chair, and introduced Miss Alice Low in a most sympathetic speech. Miss Low spoke on the position of working women, with special reference to sweating. The following officials were elected: Chairman, Mrs. Schofield; Treasurer, Mrs. Ramshaw; Secretary, Miss Spencer, Eldon House. Eight new members joined.

WALLSEND.—On Thursday, May 28th, a drawing-room meeting was held at Mrs. Forest's, The Green. Miss Lowe was the speaker, and gave a highly appreciated address. In the evening a members' meeting was held in the Café, at which Miss M. Dewar was in the chair, and Miss Sheard gave an address on "How Politics is Women's Business."

WALKER.—May 27th—Public meeting in the Co-operative Hall, Walker—Speaker, Miss A. Low—Chair, Miss Miller. Votes of thanks were given by Mrs. Dunn, Low, Fell, and Dr. Smith Clark. Six new members were gained, and twenty copies of THE COMMON CAUSE were sold.

Eastern Counties.

The Organising Secretary reports the formation of a new Society at Sawbridgeworth, with a membership of about thirty. She has also visited Felstead, Stebbing, Woodford, Epping, and Harlow; and has spoken at Welwyn and Lakenheath. At this place the first Suffrage meeting was held on June 9th, when Mrs. Rackham spoke.

NORTH CAMBS.—A public meeting was held at Selwyn Hall, Wisbech, on May 19th—Chair, Mrs. W. J. Mirrlees—Speakers, Mrs. Kellett and Mrs. Ramsey. The audience was orderly and sympathetic—fourteen members, and twenty-one "Friends." Miss C. Colson and Miss N. M. Greig gave valuable help as stewards, and sold many copies of THE COMMON CAUSE and badges.

EAST HERTS.—During the month of June this Society has arranged three separate meetings expressly to bring the Active Service League and the All Britain Lightning Campaign before its members; at Highcross on June 3rd, The Grove, Hertford, June 9th, and at the Town Hall, Hoddesdon, June 15th, Mrs. Overton and Miss Puller gave excellent addresses. About fifteen or sixteen Active

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"Hints about Baby," sent free. Sample for 2d. postage, mentioning this publication. JOSIAH R. NEAVE & Co., Fordingbridge.

Service Leaguers have been enrolled, and general help offered.

June 16th.—A deputation of the following ladies and gentlemen waited on Mr. Pawle, the prospective Liberal candidate for the Division, to lay their views on Women's Suffrage before him: The Countess of Carrick, Mrs. Arnold Overton (President of the local Society), the Rev. J. C. Evans, Miss Ella Guin (Hon. Sec. of East Herts Women's Liberal Association), Mr. and Mrs. Grosvenor Berry, Miss A. M. Spicer, Miss L. Puller (Hon. Sec. of local Suffrage Society). Mr. Pawle stated that he was in favour of Adult Suffrage for men and women. He would not support any Bill that did not enfranchise married women, he did not think a private member could urge the Government to introduce a Suffrage Bill, and he could not undertake to oppose the extension of the franchise to men if women were left out.

June 24th.—An extremely successful sale and fête was held at the Mill House, Standon, by kind permission of Mr. H. S. Chapman. The attendance was very good, and nearly £14 was realised.

Active Service League.—Two very successful expeditions have been made, one by Hertford members to the village of Cole Green, and one by Higheross members to the hamlets of Potters Green, Dane End, Sacombe Pound, and Sacombe Green.

HARLOW.—By kind invitation of Mr. and Miss Young, a successful meeting in connection with the National Union W.S.S. was held on May 27th in Mr. Young's garden. The chair was taken by N. P. Wood, Esq., of Bishop's Stortford College, who spoke strongly in favour of Women's Suffrage. Mrs. Hutchinson gave a very good address; about fifty people attended.

IPSWICH.—This Society has started a village campaign, and their first efforts have met with very fair success. Leaflets are being distributed in the adjoining villages, and the way prepared for further visits in the autumn.

LETCHWORTH AND DISTRICT.—Three open-air meetings have been held in Letchworth during the last month, organised by the leaders of the Active Service League; it is hoped that this work will continue. A leaflet campaign has been started in the factory area, these being given out at the dinner hour, and open-air meetings will follow this.

NORWICH.—May 10th—Dr. Mary Bell gave an address on Suffrage at the Men's Gospel Mission.

May 23rd—Drawing-room Meeting—Hostess, Miss M. Hill—Speaker, Dr. Mary Bell. Five members and two "Friends" joined.

June 13th—Garden meeting given by Miss E. Willis to Miss Mills' Girls' Club—Speaker, Dr. Mary Bell. Play acted by Miss B. Shave and Miss A. Tomlinson. One member and eighteen "Friends" joined.

June 17th—Women's meeting at Belvoir Street Chapel—Speaker, Mrs. Hazard. One member and seven "Friends" joined.

A committee has been formed to deal with the distribution of leaflets and the sale of THE COMMON CAUSE. Another committee has taken up work amongst the "Friends."

ROMFORD.—Miss Cohen has been working in this place since June 2nd. There was a sympathetic audience at a mother's meeting on the 8th. Several open-air meetings have been held in the Market Place, the speakers being Miss Fawcett, Miss Griffith-Jones, and Miss H. G. Cohen. Large numbers of leaflets have been given away, and THE COMMON CAUSE is being regularly sold. June 18th, Miss Cohen addressed a meeting of the Women's Co-operative Guild at Ilford. A good attendance of about fifty members, and a strongly sympathetic feeling.

Hitchin, Stevenage, and District.

WELWYN.—May 22nd—A meeting for working women was held. Miss A. Villiers took the chair. Addresses were given by Mrs. Wathen and Miss Creak. One member and several "Friends" joined, and six copies of THE COMMON CAUSE were sold.

WALKERN.—June 6th—An open-air meeting was held at this large village, as no one would let us a room, and the men were said to be too rough for an open-air meeting; the result of this, our first attempt, was very gratifying. The chair was taken by Mr. Lovell, President of the Hitchin Trades Council. Mrs. Wathen and Miss A. Villiers addressed a large and attentive audience. Though all the hearers did not agree with the speakers, there was no disorder.

A blouse sale held at Stevenage realised £8 2s.

Manchester and District.

BOLTON.—Each of the 440 members have received a circular *re* the Lightning Campaign, and most of them have been interviewed as well. The results are beginning to come in. One member alone has obtained five new members.

A Group of the Active Service League, numbering upwards of twenty, has been formed, Miss Johnson being elected Group Leader. The first open-air meeting organised by the Group took place on June 22nd, at Westhoughton. Speakers: Miss Bridson and Mr. Moss of Bolton, and Councillor Thompson of Westhoughton. A good number of "Friends'" cards were signed, and nearly two dozen copies of THE COMMON CAUSE were sold. Much interest was shown, and it is expected that a new Society will shortly be formed here.

During May 284 copies of THE COMMON CAUSE were sold, and their number might be very largely increased if more members would take up the work.

CHINLEY.—May 30th. Open-air meeting, organised by Active Service League. Five new members, fourteen "Friends." June 3rd. Similar meeting, Market Square Chapel. Four members, sixty-seven "Friends." During the past month, as a result of the Lightning Campaign, our previous membership of forty-one has been increased by twenty-eight new local members, and twenty outside members, which will be transferred to their local Societies.

HYDE SOCIETY.—Open-air meeting, held in Market Place, June 22nd, 1914. Speaker, Mr. Clement Stott, of Manchester. Chair, Rev. F. Heming Vaughan, of Hyde. A very large and very attentive audience, chiefly of working-men. Much sympathy shown.

KNUTSFORD.—June 18th. Garden meeting at "Ryefield." Chair, Mrs. Woodhouse. Speaker, Mrs. Ogden.

MACCLESFIELD.—A garden fête and sale of work was held at Lee Hall, Prestbury, June 13th, by kind permission of Mrs. Walter Greg. A pianoforte recital was given by Mr. Charles Seal, and the Suffrage sketch, "A Chat with Mrs. Chicky" was performed.

ROCHDALE.—Annual meeting on May 21st, followed by a social meeting. There was a large attendance. Chair, Miss Lydia Kemp. Speakers, Lady Rochdale and Mrs. J. R. Tomlinson.

ROMILEY.—Saturday, July 4th. Garden party. Hostess, Mrs. Morgan. Speaker, Miss Taylor.

Friday, July 10th.—Open-air meeting, 8 o'clock, corner of Sandy Lane. Chairman, Mr. Redfern. Speaker, Miss E. Cox.

July 24th.—Open-air meeting, 8 o'clock, Smithy Green, Woodley. Chairman, Mr. Clement Bundrock. Speaker, Mrs. Chew.

Friday, June 19th.—An open-air meeting was held at Smithy Green, Woodley. A fair number assembled. Several copies of THE COMMON CAUSE were sold. Chairman, Mr. S. Hamer, LL.B. Speaker, Miss Harris.

South Wales and Monmouthshire.

ABERYSTWITH.—June 16th—A meeting of members and adherents was held at the Alexandra Hall, by kind invitation of Miss Fewings, Miss Marks Thomas took the chair and Miss Downs gave a most inspiring address. A good collection brought a very pleasant evening to an end.

ABERDARE.—June 11th—An open-air meeting was addressed by Mrs. Lucan Davies.

CARDIFF.—June 11th—Mrs. Lewis, President of the Society, very kindly gave a garden party at Green Meadow, to members and "Friends." A good number were present and a most delightful afternoon was spent. Short addresses were given by Mrs. Lewis, Miss Collin, B.A., Miss Foxley, M.A., and Mrs. Thomas Jones, M.A. Several new members enrolled and 18s. worth of literature was sold by Miss Nantet and her helpers.

June 3rd and 17th.—Two very successful open-air meetings organised by the Cathays Ward Committee were held outside the Gladstone schools. Miss Miss Foxley, M.A., was the speaker. Several "Friends" were enrolled and over two dozen copies of THE COMMON CAUSE were sold at each meeting. A special appeal is made for helpers at the series of open-air meetings to be held in July. Handbills with dates and place of each meeting can be had at the office, 132, Queen Street.

NEATH.—June 12th—Miss Foxley and Mrs. Coombe Tennant addressed a public meeting at Briton Ferry.

June 13th—Miss Foxley and Mrs. Coombe Tennant addressed a public meeting at Skewen.

NEWPORT.—June 8th—Miss Foxley addressed a meeting held at Archibald Street Mission, and on the same date Miss Foxley also addressed an open-air meeting in Newport.

PORT TALBOT.—June 8th—A most successful meeting was held at Ellis's Café, Station Road. The chair was taken by Miss Cross. Mrs. Innes, of Neath, gave a very interesting and instructive address, showing the social benefits which would accrue from the extension of the franchise to women. An interesting discussion followed and many new members were enrolled.

PONTYPOOL.—May 4th—A public meeting at the Town Hall—Speakers, Miss Helen Fraser and Miss Ashton Jones. Chairman, The Rev. Edward Morgan, M.A., Vicar of Trevethin and Rural Dean. Seven new members, including the Chairman, joined the Society and thirty-one copies of THE COMMON CAUSE were sold.

May 15th—A meeting for women only to which members of the Society and members of the B.W.T.A. were invited was held at the Waverley Hotel. Speaker, Miss Erie Evans, M.B. Chair, Mrs. Woodley, P.L.G. The subject of the address was "Sexual Purity from the Suffrage Point of View." This was a well-attended meeting and a collection of 16s. was made at the close.

May 21st—A jumble sale at Sister Owen's Girls Club Room. The sum of £5 0s. 7d. was cleared.

Note.—This Report did not reach the C.C. correspondent in time for insertion last month.

SWANSEA.—May 8th—Miss Helen Fraser addressed two very successful meetings. In the afternoon at the Y.W.C.A. Miss Dillwyn in the chair. Eleven new members joined and the collection amounted to £1 13s. 4d. In the evening Councillor D. J. Davies presided over a public meeting in the Morriston Parish Hall. Sixteen new members joined, four dozen copies of THE COMMON CAUSE were sold, and the collection amounted to £1 7s. 2d. At both meetings a resolution calling for a Government measure was passed *nem. con.*

Note.—This Report was sent last month direct to the C.C. Office instead of to the C.C. correspondent for the Federation. Hence the delay in its appearance.

July 17th—Mrs. Francis Cook and Mrs. Watkin gave a most successful garden meeting at "Kimerton," Eaton Grove. Miss Dillwyn occupied the chair and Miss Cécile Barclay of the Actresses Franchise League gave a short address and recitation. Miss Seaton also gave an amusing recitation at the close of the meeting. Nineteen new members joined and a resolution was passed *nem. con.* The collection and proceeds of a small stall amounted to £4 9s. During the past three months the membership of this Society has increased from 224 to 330.

Miss Ashton Jones, organiser for the Federation, reports she has spent a fortnight in Tenby arranging the summer campaign and doing pioneer work. This was the first visit ever paid by a Suffrage organiser to the County of Pembroke. Thirty-six members have been enrolled and as many of these are representative of different interests in the town it is hoped to be able to form a Society. The local press is very kind and helpful, and is giving a good deal of free advertisement.

Miss Foxley, Hon. Sec. for the Federation, reports that the month has been largely spent in preparation for the watering-place campaign of July and August for which she begs donations and offers of help. Open-air meetings have been held in various places; militancy has aroused a good deal of ill-feeling and people have come to meetings armed with rotten eggs, but they have not thrown them, and have given a good hearing. There has been a considerable increase in the membership of several societies and new societies will shortly be formed.

The Lightning Campaign is in progress this month and next, a competition for the longest list of new members is suggested. Each member armed with three leaflets, "The Lightning Campaign," "Protest Against Violence" and "Are Women Citizens," is invited to go out and "Catch Her Pal." On a fixed date the new members will be introduced to the Society by their friend. A suffrage address combined in some places with a social will help to bring the new comers into touch with the work and workers. In some places prizes are being offered for the largest "bag." There should be little difficulty in doubling the members of all but the largest Societies.

N.B.—Donations are urgently needed if the work of breaking new ground, which has been planned, is to be carried out successfully. Please send contributions large and small without delay to Miss Foxley, Aberdare Hall, Cardiff.

CARDIGANSHIRE AUGUST CAMPAIGN.

A campaign has been organised by the N.U.W.S.S. in Cardiganshire. Offers of help by friends and sympathisers will be thankfully received by Miss Minnie G. Davies, Velindre House, Lampeter. The Society will be especially glad of the loan of motor-cars, as there is a wide district to cover. The speaker during the campaign is Mrs. Lucan Davies, of Newport.

East Midland Federation.

BURTON-ON-TRENT.—The Burton Society held a Market At Home at Friars' Walk Schools on Thursday, June 18th, when a very interesting address was given by Mrs. Stones, of Derby, which was much appreciated. The Society still carries on its Literature Stall in the Open Market on Thursday, when much propaganda work is done, and the selling of copies of THE COMMON CAUSE is accompanied in most cases by a large amount of information on the movement and its objects. The regrettable increase of militancy—and especially of church-burning—has, however, greatly increased the difficulties and unpleasantnesses of the work of law-abiding Suffragists among the rank and file of the public, who seem unable to discriminate between "Suffragists" and "Suffragettes."

The Burton Society is busily preparing for the Garden Party to be held on July 7th in the grounds of Torrington House by kind invitation of A. E. Brown, Esq. (Editor of the *Burton Daily Mail*), and Mrs. Brown.

CRICH.—A meeting was held at the Rectory on Monday June 22nd—Speaker, Mrs. Green, formerly Hon. Sec. of the Rugby W.S.S. Mrs. Green spoke on "The Disabilities of Women under the English Law," and also of the need of keeping the Suffrage movement on a high spiritual level. A discussion, mainly on militant methods, followed. Several copies of THE COMMON CAUSE were sold. Tea was served after the meeting, the proceeds being given to the Crich Society. One new member was enrolled.

DERBY.—A most successful social evening was held in the Suffrage Club Room, No. 1, Green Lane, on June 19th. There was a large attendance of members and others who listened to an interesting speech by Miss Meynell with great attention. Mrs. Boden also spoke and music was greatly enjoyed. A rummage sale was held in the afternoon, the proceeds of which go to swell the funds of the Society.

It is proposed to hold a social gathering in the Club Room every Tuesday evening during the summer.

LEICESTER.—On June 10th, a deputation of members of this Society, accompanied by Miss Blackstone, was received at the Grand Hotel by Mr. Blane, Conservative Candidate for the Borough of Leicester. Mr. Blane declared himself in favour of the principle of Women's Suffrage on a limited franchise.

During the past month the Federation Organisers have been working in Leicester and the adjoining constituencies, using Leicester as their headquarters. They have addressed meetings of the Railway Women's Guild, the Women's Co-operative Guild, and the Women's Adult School in various places, and have also held a meeting in the I.L.P. and Trades Hall at South Wigston, which was kindly lent by the local branch of the I.L.P. Mr. Doughty, of the N.U.R., and I.L.P., took the chair. A canvass of the members of the Leicester Society is being conducted with a view to the Lightning Campaign and other schemes of work, and the selling of copies of THE COMMON CAUSE in the streets has begun and has been attended with much success.

NOTTINGHAM.—A garden party and sale of work was held in the garden of the Misses de Hersant, Carisbrooke Drive, on June 25th. Addresses were given by Mrs. W. E. Dowson and Mr. Bellow on "The need for the help of women in dealing with the national problems which confront us in the immediate future." After the meeting, tea was served in the garden. The goods remaining over from the Forest of Trees Bazaar were disposed of, and about £9 will be handed to the Treasurer. The fête concluded with a charming entertainment of singing, elocution, and dancing, given by Mrs. Woodward and the Misses Swift.

SUPPORT OUR ADVERTISERS and mention THE COMMON CAUSE when ordering goods.

Coming Events.

We shall be glad to announce Meetings of Societies, Lectures, etc., in this column at a charge of 2s. per insertion of 24 words. To ensure insertion in our next issue all advertisements must be received not later than Wednesday morning. All communications should be addressed to the Manager, The Common Cause Publishing Co., Ltd., 2, Robert-st., Adelphi

NEW CONSTITUTIONAL SOCIETY FOR WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE, Tuesday, July 7th, at 3 p.m., New Constitutional Hall, Park Mansions Arcade, Knightsbridge. "The Civil Service Commission Report." Miss Eva Gore-Booth, Sir Edward Busk. Chair, Mrs. Cecil Chapman.

SUFFRAGE SUMMER SCHOOL, University Hall, St. Andrews, Scotland.—11th August to 8th September, 35s. a week. Board, lodging, lectures, and practical work. Under the auspices of the Scottish Federation of Women's Suffrage Societies.—For details apply to Miss Alice Crompton, M.A., 2, St. Andrew-sq., Edinburgh.

WOMEN'S PATRIOTIC AERIAL LEAGUE. "Flying at Hendon." Ladies' Day, July 4th. Special Exhibition Flights, 3 p.m. Free passenger flights, for particulars of which apply Women's Aerial League, 25, Denison House, Victoria, S.W.

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The "Spécialité" Corset,
Type 25. For hot weather, in Ventilated Etamine, moderate in length.
Sale Price, **19/-**

The "Spécialité" Corset,
Type 51. In White Coutil and Real Whalebone, with the free hip boning.
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The "Spécialité" Corset,
Type 36 (as illustration). In White Coutil and Real Whalebone, cut low at bust and deep on hips.
Sale price, **19/-**

The "Spécialité Corset,"
Type 70. A new Model of surpassing excellence, made in a firm Tricot, moderate in length. Colours: White, Pink, or Sky.
Sale Price, **11/9**

FULLY DETAILED SALE CATALOGUE POST FREE.

The "Specialette" Corset,
Forme 1 (as illustration). Cut very low above waist, with Tricot gores at bust. In good White Coutil, trimmed Embroidery, and superior in cut, style, and finish to any Corset on the market at the same price.
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SKEGNESS.—The work of this new Society is progressing rather slowly, owing to the fact that many of the residents leave the town for the summer months. But canvassing and the distribution of literature are being carried on, and it is hoped that some headway will be made during the autumn and winter.

South-Western Federation.

SIDMOUTH.—June 11th—A most successful garden party was held by kind invitation of Miss Dutton at Somerdon. Miss Geraldine Cooke gave a very interesting address and a Suffrage monologue was given by Miss M. Leaf. Twenty-five copies of THE COMMON CAUSE were sold, and sixteen members and "Friends" were enrolled. Altogether it was a delightful afternoon and created great interest in the organisation work which the Sidmouth Society has been doing in the surrounding country. Several people volunteered to help Mrs. Richardson in holding cottage meetings at Bromscombe, and also to assist in the Lightning Campaign.

TRURO.—June 11th—A deputation was arranged by the Truro Society to Mr. Chas. Williams, prospective Unionist candidate for the Truro-Helston division. Mr. Williams said he was not in a position, according to his own view, as prospective candidate to answer questions as regards his views on Women's Suffrage (or any other matter) put to him by a deputation. As an adopted candidate, he would do so, but as prospective candidate, he could only answer questions at a public meeting.

BIDEFORD.—June 12th—A most interesting debate was held at the Public Rooms with Mr. H. R. Bazeley in the chair. The Suffrage Society challenged the Anti-suffragists so that Mrs. Gladstone Solomon was able to have the first and last word on behalf of the Anti-suffragists against Miss Geraldine Cooke, the Suffrage champion. There were 500 people present but only about 340 voted by ballot, and in the result the Suffragists lost.

HELSTON.—June 19th—The first public meeting in Helston on the subject of Women's Suffrage was a great success. Mrs. Smart and Miss Frost were the speakers and Col. Courtenay Vyvyan, C.B., was in the chair. Mrs. Smart spoke on the "Birth and Growth of the Women's Movement," and was much appreciated. Miss Frost's subject was "Social Work and Women's Suffrage." The usual resolution calling upon the Government to bring in a measure of Women's Suffrage was carried unanimously. Twenty-eight new members and fourteen "Friends" were gained, twenty-nine copies of THE COMMON CAUSE were sold, and the collection amounted to £1 3s. 6d.

MULLION.—A public meeting was held with marked success on June 24th when Mrs. Smart and Miss Frost spoke, while Lady Radford took the chair. The audience was most interested especially with regard to the history of the movement and social conditions. The collection amounted to 14s. 6d. and nineteen new members and "Friends" joined. It is hoped to establish a branch in Helston and district later on.

DARTMOUTH.—June 24th—By the kindness of Miss Douglass, a garden party was held at Gramercy Tower when Miss Mathieson gave a short address on Women's Suffrage. Several new members joined and some old members offered to enclose leaflets advertising the National Union in every letter that they wrote, as it was felt that our doings are overshadowed by the militants.

CYCLING AND CARAVAN TOURS.

ACTIVE SERVICE LEAGUE.—The Oxon, Berks, and Bucks Federation have elected Miss A. M. Allen, 35, Holywell, Oxford, as A.S.L. Secretary, and Miss C. C. Lyon, Ashcroft, Prestwood, Great Missenden, Bucks, as Section Leader. A cycling tour is being arranged in Bedfordshire, West Herts, Bucks, and Berks, from August 10th to September 5th. The Leaguers, under the leadership of Miss C. C. Lyon and Miss Dora Mason, hope to cover a considerable amount of unbroken ground in small villages off the main roads and in places not easily accessible to the local Societies.

The Oxford Society will carry out an independent scheme in Oxon, while some Leaguers of the Mid Bucks Society have planned a tour with an A.S.L. caravan.

Items of Interest.

We commend the "Lady Chichester" Hospital, 4, Ditchling Road, Brighton, to the generosity of our readers, as we learn from Miss M. E. Verrall (Treasurer) that it is the only provincial hospital staffed by women. Miss Aldrich-Blake, M.S., M.D., is consulting surgeon, and Miss Martindale, M.D., B.S., is senior visiting surgeon.

An Islington resident—discontented with the Anti-suffrage views of the candidate he would otherwise support—has deprived him of a vote by taking his new house in his wife's name. It is hoped that many will follow this good example. It is not a new idea, having been often done by men who dislike jury service, &c.; but we hope that so long as a property qualification confers a vote, many of our men supporters will follow suit, and that this peaceful movement may spread widely. The *owner* of the house will rejoice in interviewing agents and candidate; and a good deal of Suffrage propaganda can be done in this way.—(*Islington Gazette*, June 29th.)

Several hundred guests, in costumes of every period in the history of the world dined, on June 29th, at the Hotel Cecil, and incidentally inaugurated something entirely new in the way of public dinners. It was essentially a woman's affair, having been organised by the Actresses Franchise League and the Women Writers' Suffrage League, and we understand it was highly successful.

Forthcoming Meetings.

Correspondents are urgently requested to write distinctly; and to send in NOT LATER THAN THE MONDAY FIRST POST before the announcement is to be inserted, addressed to the Sub-Editor.

London.

JULY 3.

Kingston and Surbiton—Surbiton Assembly Rooms—General Meeting—Speaker, Miss R. Smith—Chair, Mrs. Stuart Horner 5.0

Lambeth—Corner of Penton Place and Kennington—Open-air Meeting—Miss Agnes Dawson, Miss Fawcett 8.0

Southall—Co-operative Hall, King Street—Meeting of Amalgamated Society of Railwaymen—Speaker, Mr. John Osborn 8.15

JULY 5.

Hyde Park—Near Reformers' Tree—Miss I. O. Ford, Miss Chrystal Macmillan, and others 3.30

JULY 6.

East St. Pancras—Corner of King's Street and High Street, Camden Town—Open-air Meeting—Mr. Gugenheim, Miss M. Hamilton 8.0

North Kensington—Corner of Walmer Road and Lancaster Road—Open-air meeting—Mrs. Rogers, Miss Gloyn 8.30

JULY 7.

Highgate—Warwick House, Wood Lane—Drawing-room Meeting—Hostess, Mrs. Simmons—Miss Clementina Black on "Women Earners and the Vote"—Chair, Hon. Mrs. Spencer Graves 8.0

Richmond—Herons Court—Open-air Meeting—Mrs. Swanwick, M.A., Miss Fawcett, Mr. Malcolm Mitchell 8.0

Southwark—Corner of St. George's Circus and Borough Road—Open-air Meeting 8.0

JULY 8.

Ealing—Corner of Melbourne Avenue, W. Ealing—Open-air Meeting—Miss Agnes Dawson 8.0

Holborn—Open-air Meeting—Miss Cumming, Miss Rinder 8.0

JULY 9.

Battersea—Garden Party—Speaker, Mrs. Savory—Chair, Dr. Smedley McLean—Music and Recitations by the A. F. L. 4.0

Chiswick and Bedford Park—24, Blandford Road, Bedford Park—Garden Meeting by kind permission of Dr. and Mrs. Gans—Speakers, Mrs. Rogers, Miss Franklin (of the Jewish League)—Recitations by Miss Inez Bensusan, Miss Victoria Drummond—Music 4.0

Ealing—"Ingleside," Edgehill Road—Drawing-room Meeting—Hostess, Mrs. McBride—Speaker, Mrs. Rawling—Chair, Miss Rinder.

East Islington—Corner of Riversdale Road and Blackstock Road—Open-air Meeting—Mrs. Richardson and others 8.0

North Hackney—73, Lordship Road—Garden Party (by kind permission of Mrs. Cook)—Speaker, Miss Muriel Matters—Chair, the Rev. F. E. Birch, M.A.—String Quartette arranged by Miss Maud Savery 6.30

JULY 10.

Balham—Open-air Meeting—Speaker, Mrs. Harford Worlock 8.15

South Lambeth—Opposite Tate Library, South Lambeth Road—Open-air Meeting—Miss D. Brown, Miss Fawcett 8.0

The Provinces.

JULY 3.

Birmingham—Queen's College—Special Meeting of Vice-Presidents—Speaker, Mrs. Osler 5.30

Blackburn—Imperial Mill, Accrington Road—Miss Wilkinson, Mrs. Robinson, Mrs. Entwistle 12.30—1.30

Wellington Hotel, Accrington Road—Mr. Abbott, Mrs. Robinson, and others 7.30

Bradford—Rossefield School, Heaton—Garden Party and Sale of Work—Hostesses, the Misses Gregson and Rendall—Admission and Tea, 6d. 3.0—9.0

Caerphilly—The Twyn—Speakers, Mrs. Lucan Davies, Miss Ashton-Jones—Chair, Councillor W. J. Jenkins 8.0

Garesfield—Open-air Meeting—Miss I. S. A. Beaver, Miss A. E. Westwood 7.0

High Spen—Open-air Meeting—Miss Sheard, Miss A. E. Westwood 7.0

Romford—Corn Exchange—Miss Fielden, Mr. J. Malcolm Mitchell.

Westerham—Open-air Meeting—Miss Muriel Matters 6.30

JULY 4.

Bristol—Heathlands, Leigh Woods—Friends League Meeting—Miss H. Sturge, Miss Tanner.

Cambridge—Merton House (by kind permission of Dr. and Mrs. Tennant)—The Committee At Home—Speakers, Mr. Cholmeley, Mrs. Kellett.

Cardiff—Opposite Gladstone Road Schools—Open-air Meeting—Speaker, Miss Foxley, M.A.—Chair, Mr. J. E. Edmunds 8.0

Chinley—Garden Meeting (by kind permission of Mrs. Dunderdale)—Miss M. Ashton, Mr. Frank Leigh.

Cromer—East Runton Old Hall—Garden Fête—Hostess, Mrs. Hawker—Speakers, Mrs. Vulliamy, the Rev. A. S. Duncan Jones—Chair, Mr. Harold Spender

Gateshead—Bensham Grove—Garden Party (by kind invitation of the President, Mrs. Spence Watson)—Speaker, Miss C. M. Gordon, M.A.

Sevenoaks—Open-air Meeting—Miss Muriel Matters 9.0

Shaeham and Otford—Speaker, Miss Muriel Matters—Chair, Mrs. Percy Thompson 3.0

Wolverhampton—Meeting at the residence of the President, Mrs. Major—Mrs. Garret Rice on "The Disabilities of Professional Women"—Mrs. Adamson on "The Disabilities of Wives and Mothers" 3.30—6

JULY 6.

Birmingham—Hay Green Men's School—Mrs. Ring 8 a.m.

Worthing—Open-air Meeting of the Brotherhood—Miss Fielden on "The Social and Spiritual Outlook of Women" 3.0

JULY 6.

Cambridge—Brunswick House—Garden Meeting for "Friends"—Hostess, Mrs. Thompson—Speaker, Miss I. O. Ford—Diologues, Miss Bowes, Miss Nutter

Cinderford—At the Triangle—Open-air Meeting—Speaker, Miss Harold Hicks, B.A.—Chair, the Rev. S. G. Elsom 7.0

Heywood—Market Ground—Open-air—Mr. Beanland, Mr. J. Gleave 7.30

Hyde—Market Place—Open-air Meeting—Speaker, Mrs. Chew—Chair, Councillor Walter Fowden.

Llandrindod Wells—Rock Park Gardens—Miss Helen Fraser, Miss Ashton-Jones 11.0

Manchester—Corner of York Street and Chester Road, Hulme—Open-air Meeting—Councillor Margaret Ashton, M.A. 8.0

Opposite Duke of York Hotel, Salford—Open-air Meeting—Mrs. Muter Wilson 8.0

JULY 7.

Bream—Suntrap Green—Speaker, Miss Harold Hicks, B.A.—Chair, Mr. R. Williams 7.0

Bristol—40, Park Street—At Home—Mrs. Burrow Hill on "Thoughts on Elementary Education."

Burton—Torrington House, Branstone Road (by kind permission of Mr. A. E. Brown)—Garden Fête and Sale of "White Elephants"—Opener, Mrs. Chas. Tresise—Tea and entertainments—Admission 1s. inclusive 3.30

Cambridge—Market Place—Meeting—Miss I. O. Ford 8.0

Llandrindod Wells—Rock Park Gardens—Miss Helen Fraser 11.0

JULY 8.

Bournemouth—Open-air Meeting.

Hay, Hereford—Miss Helen Fraser afternoon

Llandrindod Wells—Rock Park Gardens—Miss Ashton-Jones 11.0

Lydney—At The Cross—Open-air Meeting—Speakers, Miss Harold Hicks, B.A., Miss J. Baretti—Chair, the Rev. S. J. Elsom

Reading—Aldworth Rise, Russell Street—Garden Fête—Competitions, etc.—Entrance and variety performance, 6d.

Rochdale—Town Hall Square—Speaker, Mrs. Robinson—Chair, the Rev. H. Edmonds 7.45

JULY 9.

Gillingham—Miss Thompson.

Llandrindod Wells—Rock Park Gardens—Miss Helen Fraser 11.0

Manchester—Near Didsbury Post Office—Open-air Meeting—the Rev. W. Whitaker, Mrs. Atack, Mr. Norbury, Mr. Crane 8.0

Ancoat's Suffrage Club, 396, Oldham Road—Mr. H. Eastwood 7.45

Wellingborough—Garden Party and Sale of Work—Speaker, Miss I. O. Ford—Croquet Tournament and Dramatic Entertainment.

Yorkley—On Captain's Green—Speaker, Miss J. Baretti—Chair, Mr. G. Kean 7.0

JULY 10.

Ashford—Miss Dawson 7.0

Epping—Open-air Meeting—Speaker, Miss Ruth Young—Chair, Miss Creak 7.30

Llandrindod Wells—Rock Park Gardens—Miss Helen Fraser 11.0

Albert Hall—Miss Helen Fraser, Miss Foxley, M.A. 8.0

Manchester—Gardiner Street, Prestwich—Open-air Meeting—Councillor M. Ashton, M.A., and the Rev. Jabez Bell 8.0

Matfield Grange—Hostess, Mrs. Perkin—Speaker, Miss Muriel Matters 3.0

Seal—Open-air Meeting—Miss A. E. Gloyn 8.0

JULY 14.

Cambridge—Market Place—Meeting—Miss Helen Frazer 8.0

JULY 15.

Bradford—Oak Bank, Manningham—Hostesses, the Misses Wade—Speaker, Mrs. Edwin Gray (of York)—Cake, candy, and flower stalls 7—7

Croydon—Smitham Bottom—Open-air Meeting—Miss I. O. Ford 7.30

Purley—"Montclair," Penwortham Road—Drawing-room Meeting—Hostess Miss E. Underhill—Speakers, Miss Hodge and Miss Newcomb 3.15

JULY 16.

Knutsford—Open-air Meeting—Speaker, Mrs. Chew—Chair, Mr. W. Ellor 8.0

Scotland.

JULY 4.

Edinburgh—Flower Day.

Portobello—Open-air Meeting—Miss Pressley-Smith 7.30

JULY 7.

Leith—Open-air Meeting—Speaker, Miss Pressley-Smith—Chair, Mrs. Scott 8.0

JULY 8.

Penicuik—(I.L.P. Meeting)—Miss L. M. Gordon 7.30

Election Fighting Fund Campaign.

Pontnwydd—July 3—Miss Foxley, M.A., Mr. I. Jones, Mrs. Cooper 7.0

Brymanwr—July 4—The Square—Miss Foxley, M.A., Mrs. Cooper 7.30

Bleanavon—July 6—Lion's Square—Miss Margaret Robertson, B.A., Mr. Langley 7.0

Abergavenny—Cab Square—Miss Robertson, B.A.—Councillor J. Winstone, J.P. (Prospective Labour Candidate) 7.0

Pontypool—July 8—Market Square—Miss M. Robertson—Councillor J. Winstone, J.P. 7.30

Griffithstown—July 9—Station Square—Councillor Charles, Mrs. Cooker, Miss Harris 7.0

Six Bells—June 10—Councillor Davius, Mrs. Newton Harris 7.0

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MISS NELLIE HORNE, Lecturer on Voice Production. Conductor of Speakers' Classes, Summer Suffrage Schools (Malvern 1912, St. Andrews 1913), Suffrage Societies' Classes (Manchester, Birkenhead, &c.). Elocution in all its branches. Classes or private tuition.—Prince's Chambers, John Dalton-st., Manchester

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THE GLASGOW SOCIETY FOR WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE (National Union) wishes an experienced Organiser (lady) for the end of August.—Please apply by letter stating experience and salary expected, to Secretary, Suffrage Offices, 202, Hope-st., Glasgow.

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For further information apply to the Secretary.

THE NATIONAL UNION

Is the great Non-Party, Non-Militant, Women's Suffrage Society. If you approve of our methods and objects, please fill in the accompanying Form and send it to the Secretary.

I approve of the objects and methods of the National Union of Women's Suffrage Societies, and desire to be enrolled as a member of the affiliated Society in my district, and to receive their organ *"The Common Cause."

I herewith enclose cheque / postal order for £ s. d., the amount of my annual subscription. Plus 6s. 6d., one year's subscription to "The Common Cause."*

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To the Secretary _____ Society for Women's Suffrage.

Or the Secretary, National Union of Women's Suffrage Societies, 14, Great Smith Street, Westminster, London, S.W.

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